TVLLIES LOVE;

VVherein is discourſed the prime of CICEROES youth, ſetting out in liuely Portraitures, how young Gentlemen, that aime at Honour, ſhould leuell the end of their affections, holding the loue of Countrey and Friends in more eſteeme, then thoſe fading bloſſomes of beauty, that onely feed the curious iurney of the eye.

A worke full of pleaſure, as following CICEROES veine, who was ſo conceited in his youth, as grave in his age; profitable, as containing precepts worthy ſo famous an ORATOR.

By ROBERT GREENE, in Artibus Magiſter.

Omne tulit punctum qui miſcuit vtile dulci.

LONDON,
Printed by *Robert Young* for *Iohn Smethwicke*, and are to be ſold at his ſhop in S. *Dunſtanes* Church-yard, vnder the Dyall. 1630.

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TO THE RIGHT Honourable, FERDINANDO STANLEY, *Lord Strange, envobled with* all Titles that Honour may afford, or *Vertue challenge*, Robert Greene *wisheth increase of vertuous and Lordly resolutions.*

THe *Tripos* (Right Honorable) ingrauen with *Detur sapienti*, was by the Oracle allotted to *Socrates*; *Achilles* shield maintained with the sword, fell to *Vlysses* for his wisdome; *Pallas* had her Library, & her Launce: and such as read *Non vltra* on *Hercules* Pillars, pointed out the characters with their Spears. Proportion, the mother of Geometrie, and Mistris of Arts, commands that *Hector* haue his honors, *Alcides* his glories, and that *Olympus* be neuer without bright glittering armour, nor greene-wreathed Garlands, as well to grace the Souldier, as to glory the Poet.

This considered (right Honorable) hauing done my endeuour to pen down the loues of *Cicero*, which *Plutarch*, & *Cornelius Nepos* forgot in their writings: I presumed to present vnto your Honour, not high written Poems, as *Maro* did to *Augustus* but the fruits of well intended thoughts, as *Callymachus*, Scholar did to *Alexander*, thinking nothing rare or view-worthy, sufficiently patronaged, vnlesse shrowded vnder the

protection of so Honourable a *Mecœnas*. Whatsoeuer was pleaded in *Rostris* was not penned by *Hortensius*, and yet the Senators heard and gaue plausible censures. *Homer* spent verses, as well on *Irus* the begger, as *Eurymachus* th wooer. Euery sentence cannot *Cleanthis lucernam olere*, and yet men will read Poems, and praise them. Then (right Honorable) if my work, treating of *Cicero*, seeme not fit for *Cicero*, as eclipsing the beauteous shew of his eloquence, with a harsh and vnpolished stile, yet I craue that your Honour will accept of it, only for that it is written of *Cicero*. *Ennius* laboured as hard in his rough Poesies as *Virgil* in his high Poems. *Phidias* pensill (in his owne conceit) was pointed, as *Pigmaleons* chasing tooles. Meane wits, in their follies, haue equall paines with learned Clerkes in their fancies. *Apollo* yeelded Oracles aswel to poore men for their praiers, as to Princes for their presents. Starres haue their lights, and haires their shadowes. Meane Scholers haue high thoughts, though low fortunes. Thus perswaded and emboldned (right Honorable) I present this Pamphlet of *Ciceroes* Loues to your Lordship, resolued vpon your courteous acceptance, that weighing the mind, not the matter, your Honour will say, if not *Bucephalus*, yet a horse. And in this hope resting, I wish to your Lordship as much health and happinesse, as your Honour can desire, or I imagine.

Your Lordships humbly deuoted,

Robert Greene.

To the Gentle Readers, health.

GEntlemen, *I haue written of* Tullies Loue, *a worke attempted to winne your fauours, but to diſcouer mine owne ignorance, in that, coueting to counterfeit* Tullies *phraſe, I haue loſt my ſelfe in vnproper words: but hoping (as euer I haue done) of your curteſies, I haue, like bold* Bayard, *put my head out of the ſtable. If my method be worſe then it was wont to be, thinke that skill in Muſicke mard all: For the cleiue was ſo diſſonant from my note, that we could not clap a concord together by fiue markes.* Chiron *the Sagittarie was but a feined conceit, & men that beare great ſhapes and large ſhadowes, and haue no good nor honeſt minds, are like the portraiture of* Hercules *drawn vpon the ſands. If I ſpeak myſtically, thinke 'tis muſically; and ſo deſiring that you will take* Tullies Loue, *as penned for your pleaſure, I bid you farewell.*

Robert Greene.

Ad Lectorem Hexasticon.

IN lucem prodit tenebris exuta malignis
Romulei petulans vesanaque flammula Phœbi:
Rorantem Autbori (Lectores) spargite florem,
Intyba, Narcissos, Latacem, pictique Roseti
Dulces diuitias: Illum concingite lauru:
Emerito solers industria reddat honorem.

Tho. Watson. Oxon.

Ad Lectorem, de Ciceronis amore, Hexasticon.

MIraris fortasse legens Ciceronis amorem:
Desine mirari, qui bene scribit, amat.
Crimen inesse putas? semel insaniuimus omnes:
Quæ faciunt iuuenes, condoluere senes.
Linguam qui laudat Ciceronis, laudet amorem:
Greni solus honor, sit Ciceronis amor.

G. B Cantabrigiensis.

VArro and *Tueca* wrote of *Marons* verſe;
And *Dares* dar'd to tell of *Homers* skill.
Of *Ouids* works, Latines haue made rehearſe,
And Poets haue diſcourſt of *Pindars* quill.
Many haue writ Coſmographie of lands,
And told of *Gihon* and of *Tagus* ſands.
Of *Helens* beautie and of *Ledaes* hiew
The winged fancies of the learn'd haue told:
But of the prowdeſt Poets old or new,
Who dar'd ſweet *Tullies* fancies once vnfold?
As farre too high for all that yet haue beene.
Then giue the Palme and Glorie vnto *Greene*.

Thomas Burneby Eſquire.

NOw bloomes and bloſſomes of faire *Adons* flowre,
Cupid is ſtolne from *Pathos* ſecret ſhrine,
Diana lurkes, ſhe and her Nymphs doe lowre:
Bacchus that tempers ſacred Loue with wine,
Ceres and all the Gods haue made agree,
That Loue is God, and there is none but he.
The Poems wanton *Ouid* ſet in verſe:
His Art of Loue, that baniſht him from *Rome*,
Did neuer ſuch quaint Amorets rehearſe,
As are deſcypher'd vnder *Tullies* doome;
Whoſe *Romane* phraſe fetcht from *Parnaſſus* hill,
Sayes, None but *Tully* in the depth of skill.

Edward Rainsford Eſquire.

1121

TULLIES LOVE.

THere dwelled in the Citie of Rome, being Metropolitane of the World, famous as well for martiall Champions, as delicate for beautifull Ladies, a Consul called Flaminius, made glorious by Fortune, as having twice rode in the triumphing Chariot, and worne the Lawrell wreathe, giuen as a Palme to such as haue been happy for many great Victories. This Consul, famous in the Common-wealth for his martiall exploits, Fortune, whose conceit rests in extremes, either too prodigall in her fauours, or prouidiciall in her frownes, to make this man the miracle of her Deity, lent him one onely Daughter, of such excellent exquisite perfection, as Nature in her seemed to wonder at her owne workes. Her haire was like the shine of Apollo, when shaking his glorious tresses he makes the World beauteous with his brightnesse. The Ivory of her face ouercast with a Vermilion dye, seemed like the blush that leapt from Endimions cheekes, when Cynthia courts him on the Hils of Latmos. So did the proportion of her body answere to the perfection of her mind, and the honour of her thoughts so fitted to the glory of her fauors, as it rested doubtfull whether her outward beauties, or inward vertues held the Supremacy. In so much, that as men flocke to Delphos, to heare the Oracles of Apollo, so diuers resort to Rome to take view of the excellency of Terencia: who once delighted with the sight of her grace, set downe this as an Axiome, that Pallas the Patronesse of Troy for wisedome, or Venus the wonder of Heauen for beauty, might not disgrace the dignities of this gorgeous Damsel. Rome swelling

the pride of this matchlesse Virgin, whose thoughts were more humble then her face beautifull: and yet the Painters of that time feared to attempt her portraiture, as finding the perfection of nature to exceed the proportion of Art, made her the Mistris of their Vestals, as one that counted fancy as vnfit for a maid, as Alexander cowardize for a souldier. Cupid sitting on his mothers knee by the fount of Alcydalion seeing how Terentia, enemy to his amorous philosophy, set loue at so light esteeme, and for a charme against his Magicall inchantments, carried the euer-burning fire of Vesta in her brest, clasping his mother wantonly about the neck, he began thus to prattle. Seeing, mother, we haue left the places of our accustomed residence, to auoide the troupes of such sutors, as onely end their loues with their liues, and haue stolne to the secret fount here a while, to be solitary, to weare away the time with some conceited chat, I pray you tell me whereof are womens hearts made: I aske the question, mother, for that I find the distinction of their fancies like the difference of their faces, which as they bee distinguisht in proportion, so they be altogether vnlike in properties. Venus, hearing her Sonne make such a waggish demand, began thus to reply. Some say, my boy, of the liuer of a Camelion, whose nature is to be changeable in hues, and women as variable in their thoughts. Others of a pyrit stone, which handled softly, is as could as yce, but pressed betweene the fingers, burneth like fire: they which infer this comparison, say that women brook not fauourable persuasions, nor may be wonne by intreaties, but the ready way to kindle them with desire, is to crosse them with Disdaine. Some say their hearts are of Marble, which being hard, yet drops teares against euery storme: Some of wax, that is soft, admitting euery impression: those women haue their loue in their lookes, which taken in with a gaze, is thrust out with a winke: some of Adamant, they be hard-hearted, and yet men say the Lapidaries haue tooles to pierce them: others of gold, and they be like Danaē, that will admit no louer but such as Jupiter. To be briefe, my boy, so many fancies so many fictions, euery one censuring of womens hearts, as

his

his owne experience hath found her froward or dishonorable. Cupid, hearing his mother discourse thus cunningly, demanded amongst all these, whereof was Terencias heart of Rome formed. At this, Venus fetching a deepe sigh, prosecuted her former promises thus. Well wagge, for all you play the wanton, hast thou insight so far into thine enemies thoughts, that thou hast quoted in thy tables, the resolution of Terentia, whom men count more beautifull then my selfe, and more chaste then Diana? her heart, my boy, is framed of the purest diamond, which, as it is hard to entertaine loue, so it is cleane, fit for the receit of vertue. I tell thee, Cupid, Terentia makes deare her drudge, and disdaine her champion: shee honours all the gods but thee, and admits all recreations but loue: that she may finish her age with content of patience. The prime of her yeeres are grane, that the fruits of her time may be gracious, and the stripes to be as full of honour in her life, as full of fauours in her looks. To conclude, my boy, she is Terentia, who seeks with labours to moulde loues, and indeuours to be called as vertuous, as other Ladies amorous. Thus Venus ended with a frown, and Cupid began with a smile, thee scorning at her honors, he studying on reuenge, after a little pause the choleriek boy burst forth into these termes: And shall Terentia offer perfumes to Vesta, and Hemlock to Venus? shall she (mother) strew Dianaes layres with Roses, and pour palaces with nettles? shall she let Desire in rags, and Disdaine in silkes? No, Cupid hath his bolts feathered with the wings of swallowes that flye swift, and his arrowes headed with strong tempred steele, that pierce deepe, like to Achilles launce that did wound and heale: my shafts (mother) are of sundry Metals, the strongest of them will I aime at Terentia, and if my fortune faile me not, I will change her songs to sighes, and her chaste Prayers to amorous passions. And with that, leaping from his mothers lap, he bent his bow, shot an Arrow, and hit Terentia on the heart, but it was of such proofe, as the bolt rebounded, and brake into a thousand shiuers. At this, Cupid scorned, seeing his deity counterchecke with such constant chastity: and Venus smiled, see-

ing her some in such a rage: which so increased his choler, that he discharged all his arrowes at randome, careless of his aime, so he might any way revenge. Amongst the rest, young Lentulus a Roman Cavalier, under whose conduct the Consul sent many Legions to make warre against the Parthians, was one of those unfortunate men that Cupid had bruised with his arrowes. For having fought a set battaile, and bought the victory with great losse, fresh supplies were sent him from Rome. Lentulus welcomming his new come souldiers, demanded what news: after they had made report of the state of the Common-wealth, they then, as a thing miraculous and supernaturall, discoursed to him the excellency of Terentia, setting out her glories with such emphaticall descriptions, that Lentulus leaning his head on his hand; became a willing auditor to such pleasant Philosophy. Smiling thus in the ouer-sweete potions that Love had tempted, like Circes to bewitch the wary and warlike Vlisses, he caused his souldiers with often repetitions of Terentias beauty, to graft it in the sinewes of his new entertained fancies. In the day his head was troubled with thoughts of Terentia: in the night concett presented the visions of Terentia. Where before hee laid plots how to circumuent the Parthians, now he deuised how to cõpasse his passions: loue with him to make light esteeme of war; but growing to be careless, he gaue his enemies occasion of incouragement. Being thus perplexed with vnacquainted fits, he beganne thus souldier-like to debate with himselfe: Haue not the ancient Romans, whose statues and trophees haue filled the world with wonder of their chiualry, alwaies the end of their honors to consist in armes? haue not they fetcht fame from the heauens with their swords, and bound her to their fortunes with circumscriptions of blood? haue not their lances pierc'd oblation to the heart, and their martial deedes registred their names in the Chronicles of memory? and yet Lentulus, doest thou make light esteeme of war, whose very frowns are honours, and whose fauours immortall glories? Blush at thy thoughts that are so base, and weepe with Cæsar, that thou hast not done wonders with Alexander. Thou art elected

by

by the Consuls, as a choise man of Rome, as high prised for thy valour, as thy parentage, and yet thy mother was of the great Æmilij. Thou art sent against the Parthians, a Nation warlike and resolute, either to challenge thy graue with thy sword, or carue out their tombs with the Courtle-axe. Wareſt thou then, Lentulus, amidſt thoſe glorious thoughts of a Souldier, admit the leaſt paſsion of a louer? shall thy policies, too little for the Parthians, be imployed in purchasing Terentia? No, Lentulus, draw thy Fawchon, brandiſh it against Rome, and if Loue looke but ouer the walls, menace her with thy martiall weapons: and yet Lentulus, be not so ſcotcall, as to retect ſuch a mighty deity. Haue not the Romans erected a temple neere vnto Campus Martius? Are not Knights dubbed, to defend Ladies? Make they not their Helmes proud with their Miſtris fauours? Mars hath his amours, as he hath his armours. Alexander gloried in his Loues, as he triumphed in his Victories. Great Pompey hath his Iulia, Cæſar his paramour, Souldiers haue loued, and ſo will I. Hauing thus diſcourſed with himſelfe, his hope of his loue, drawe ſuch an inuincible courage into his mind, that he paſſed not many daies without giuing battell to the Parthians, in which, getting a glorious victory, he ſent great treaſure, and many captiues home to Rome, with great interceſsion to the Senate, that he might not winter from his owne Countrey. The Conſuls glad to fauor him with any reaſonable grant, ſent Lepidus to take his place, and recalled Lentulus home to the city. The fame of whoſe high intended thoughts, his conqueſt inlarg'd with infinite treaſures and rich captiues, made Rome to ring with ecchoes of his matchleſſe excellency: inſomuch, that paſsing through the ſtreets to the Capitoll, there to be inueſted with the honors due to his victories, multitudes of Romans were placed on ſcaffolds, to take view of ſo braue and hardy a captaine, and the gorgeous windowes of the city were ſtuffed with troops of beautifull ladies, tickled with an earneſt deſire to ſatiſfie their ſights with his perſonage. Paſsing thus in pomp, Iulius Cæſar then being Dictator, after the ſolemne rites and magnificent triumphs were ended, bade him home to din-

ner, where he feasted him with such royalty, as might beseeme the greatnes of the day, and the highnes of his owne thoughts. Thus flieth the fame of Lentulus through Rome, as the wonder of his time, but all these triumphant dignities could not extirpate the melancholy of this Romans thoughts, inserted into his mind by the fond inchauntments of loue: but as the wounded Deere wingeth forth teares, & the Pirlie pierced, yeeldeth gum, so Lentulus after his deep impression of loue could affoord nought but sighes and sorrowes. The gemme of Terencias excellency reflected in his minde like an obiect in a Crystall mirror, that amiddest his most serious affaires, he found the passions of Loue to be intermedled. Fortune that had tied her fauours in the top of his Creast, half perswaded to become constant to this warlike Champion, seeing Cupid wrong him without cause, thought with a soueraigne antidote, to preuent the further ensuing preiudices of fancy. Forcing therefore Opportunity to dance attendance upon this her darling, it fell out, that Flaminius, the father of Terencia, seeing how Lentulus was generall feasted of all the Senators in Rome, thought amongst the rest, to welcome home the warrior with a banket: and therefore meeting him at one Titus Annius Miloes house, he solemnly inuited him home to dinner. Lentulus, as full of curtesie as courage, after great thanks, promised to be his guest. Whereupon Flaminius parting home, made prouision: and Lentulus stealing to his lodging, being solitary, conceiued such inward ioy at this sweet opportunity, that leaning upon his left hand, smiling to himselfe, he breathed out these words: Such I see well, as Mars honours with fauors, Venus will not crosse with frowns: those that conquer in Warres, shall not perish in Loues. Cupid fauors his fathers followers, and such as fortune smiles on in battell, she laughs on in fancies: I coueted to beare charges against the Parthians, and the Senate elected me Lord of their Legions: Desire wisht me to haue a sight of Terencia, and her father entertaines me for a guest. I made conquest of mine enemies with the sword, and why may I not win Loue with my loyalty? Feare not, Lentulus, these concluded compar-

sions

sons are prodigious, be Augure then to thy selfe, and calculate thy good fortunes by thy thoughts: Loues and Warrs craue courage, Feare not man, for thy intreaties are as mighty, as her denials can be contrary. As thus he was debating within himselfe, the clocke told him it was time to go to visite his Host, so that he made himself as sumptuous as might be, and at the parting from his chamber doore, he said thus: If Venus (quoth he) thou fauour me in my loues, I will become thy vowed seruant in my life, I will strew thy Altars with Roses, and set thee shrines at Paphos: I will bind vp my temples with Mirtle boughes, and for the martiall garland weare a wreath of flowers: I will haue doues nests in my palaces, and what belongs to thee shall be some of my delight, onely grace me with the fauour of Terentia. Ending this his vow, he passed forward with his traine towards the house of Flaminius, where being arriued, the graue Senators entertained him with such magnificence, as Lentulus perceiued his welcome by his honors. The boord couered, and the company ready to sit, Lentulus was placed chiefe at the table, who all this while, hauing not sight of Terentia, sate as a man nipped on the head, although there were at the table, to grace the feast, many braue and beautifull damsells. Sitting thus in a dump, he was cheered up by all the company: but at last, to set him in his iollity, Terentia was commanded by her father, to bring him in a cup of Greekish wine. She that little cared to be seene in open banquets, as holding it contrary to the rites of Vesta, durst not yet but with all diligence signifie her obedience. Therefore attired in a rich robe of white, spotted with stars of gold, tempring the porphyry of her face with a vermilion blush, looking like Diana when she basht at Acteons presence, she came into the hall, where humbly saluting all the company, she deliuered the wine to her father. Lentulus seeing fame had but blemisht her fauors, in being too partiall of her praises, sat so amazed at the beauteous excellency of Terentia, as did the Centaur enamored of Iuno. His eie made suruey of her beauties, who posting thē ouer to the contēplation of his thoughts so set on fire his heart with her perfections, as his stomacke

shut

shut up her orifice, to giue his eies leaue to wonder at the curious conceits of natures cunning: his lookes began to sparkle loue, as did those of Adon, when he prped vpon the face of his paramour: the change of his color betrayed his new entertained passions: which noted by Terencia, halfe angry at loues folly, she discouered her colour with such a blush, as Lentulus letting fall his knife vpon his trencher, said aloud, Non fortuna, Non Bellum; meaning that neither the highest state of Fortune, nor the fatall euent of warre, could conquer that heart that her beauty hath made subiect. Terentia at this unexpected exclamation abashed, and the rest of the company marueiled: but Flaminius willing to moue some toyle talke, demanded of Lentulus what he meant by this sodden emblem. Lentulus willing to make sight at the foiwle, and yet not to haue a bell at his heele, answered thus: Whilest I lay in legar intrenching the Parthians, more hardy with legions of men, then with deepe raised countermures, my soulderes discouered a castle, which once won, displacing the strength of the country, seeing the Romans had made me vicegerent of their forces, although the place seemed impregnable, being as well defended by nature, situate vpon a mount, as by prouiselle stored with men and munition, yet prising honor more deare then blood, and countries prosit beyond the content of life, I bent certaine legions against the castle, and following the opinion of Quintus Fabius Maximus, sought by delay to driue them to composition. For it was said of him,

Vnus homo nobis cunctando restituit rem,
Non ponebat enim rumores ante salutem.
Ergo post q̃, magisq̃, viri nunc gloria claret.

Seeking to get conquest by famine, which would haue been preiudiciall with the sword, at last, seeing their forces greatly weakned, I gaue assault, and entred, putting the soulders to the sword, yet willing to saue the Lord of the castle, for that his valour discouered his thoughts, searching him out, I found him in his bed-chamber, his wife Flaine,

and

and the blade yet varnished with blood grasped in his fist, staring me in the face with a gastly looke, that stood amazed at the stratagem, hee spake thus: Romane, report in the Senate house, that where you excell vs in policy, we exceed you in resolution: this Lady which thou seest here weltring in her gore, is my wife; and for she brookes not second fancies, she craued to end her loue with her life: I married her a Virgin and honorable, she died a wife and honest, as famous in Parthia for her vertues, as your Romane Dames for their brauieries. We liued without iarres, for that the desire of the one was the content of the other, constancy banished iealousie, and true loue held suspition at the lances point. Our fortunes (Romane) thou hast puld downe with thy prowesse, warre hath made wrack of our safeties; but for our loues, this sword shall linke them together by death, so that non fortuna, non bellum. And with that the resolute Souldier stabbed himselfe. Astonished at this peremptory massacre, although all stained with the blood of the Parthians: yet I could not but grieue at the passion of the man, and enter into consideration what that loue should be, that wrought in mens minds such resolute effects: so well liking of his determinate death, that I vowed in my thought, if euer I obtained the fauour of some gracious Damsell, to write blood with the Parthians, Non fortuna, non bellum. The remembrance (honorable Senators) of this Tragedy made me to shew my selfe so passionate. Lentulus hauing ended his discourse, the Senators generally praised the resolution of the Parthian, and the Ladies the constancy of his wife, all concluding, that no impression could be so deeply inserted into the heart, as loue. Terencia, spying the flame by the smoke, smiled to see how couertly Lentulus had cloked his thoughts, and how, in vowing to be constant, he discouered his conceit, so that turning her backe, she went into her Closet, and there blamed Venus, that had wrapt so braue a Champion in her subtileties: not feeling, either the personage, or perfections of Lentulus, to stirre the stayed continency of her mind. Well, the Senators, not willing to let this fall to the ground, talking still of the Parthian,

and amongst the rest of those honourable guests that were there feasted, Archias the Poet, a man of a pleasant disposition tooke the tale by the end, and beganne to prosecute it thus.

Graue Senators, I remember I haue heard Hortensius the great Orator say, that in times past, the Consuls for recreation, would vse light and honest pastimes, especially mirth at meate, as the fittest minister for digestion, alledging Scipio and Gracchus, who coueted to be as second at their banquets, as they were serious in matters of estate. Seeing then (Reuerent Fathers) Lentulus hath entred into the discourse of loue, producing the Parthian, who amongst his other singularities, boasted, that his fancy had neuer become stained with iealousie, a plague that is greatly now adayes predominant in Rome, might it please you to fauour vs with your gracious consent, we would intreate Lentulus to discourse to vs, his opinion of iealousie. The Senators granted, and Terencia being come to giue attendance on her father, smiled. Lentulus casting his eyes vpon his loue, seeing a dimple in her cheeke, which was to him *Cupidinis amoris*, made Archias this present answere.

Had the Thebeans appointed Zeuxis to haue disputed on Musicke, or they of Thessaly, Menalcas, to haue described the Court: The principles of the one had been as void of Art, as the precepts of the other farre from honour: The one being an enemy to Musicke, the other a Swaine, and a Shepheard. So (reuerend Senators, and honorable Ladies of Rome) Archias, how skilfull soeuer in Poetry, yet hath failed in his policy, to request him to discourse of iealousie that neuer as yet offered incense at the Altar of loue. If it had been to make description of a battell, to haue discoursed the order of the Phalanx, or any point of martiall discipline, then could I, as a Souldier, haue dilated such principles, as warlike Captaines register in the field with their sword. But of loue, whose amorous deitie agreeth not with drum and trumpet, or of Iealousie, as the shadow of Fancy, it fitteth me as little to discourse, as the shoomaker of Apelles portraiture. But if euer Venus shall vouch me that

fauour,

fauour, to grace me with a speciall looke from my mistris excellency, and that mine eye be allowed, as Paris was, to iudge of beauties; Archias shall command me as a friend. In the meane time; for Poets and Painters ought to haue their conceits feathered with Mercuries plumes: I will desire Archias to supply my ignorance, and to describe the effects of iealousie. The Senators, and the rest of the Company, hearing how cunningly Lenculus retorted the argument vpon Archias, with a resolute consent, they entoyned Archias to play the Orator, who being pleasantly disposed began thus: The wolues in Syria that barke against the Moone, suffer small rest, and great hunger. Arrowes shot against the Starrs, pierce downe ward: and the Syrens that sought to intrap Vlysses, perish themselues: so Gentlemen, I sought to make experience of Lenculus eloquence, and Fortune hath alloted me to discouer mine owne ignorance; but lest I might be counted either too Stoicall, or too too full of selfe-conceit: for iealousie thus.

Archias discourse of Iealousie.

Such as haue searched into the deepest Aphorismes of Anacreon, or pried into the principles that Ouid set down in his Volumes, find loue to be such a pure passion of the mind, as, like the Chrystall, it admitteth no brusle, without a crack: it groweth from the vnion of two minds, conceiued by the speciall liking of some excellent good, consisting in exterior beauty, or interior vertues, or the combining of them both in one soule, and singular perfection. This choice of excellency confirmed by election, once imprinted in the heart is so precious, as the pearles of Cleopatra. The fleece of Colchos, the sands of Tagus are trash, if brought into compare with this diuine and metaphysicall passion: man hauing swilled in this nectar of Loue, is so chary that he not onely brooketh no corriuall of his thoughts, but admitteth no partaker of his fauors, and from this feare proceedeth that fury which men call iealousie, beeing secret suspition, that others should enioy that excellency that he hath chosen sole

and singuler to himselfe. This (noble Romanes) is that fiend that Pluto sent to checke Cupid in his deitie: this springing from Hell, bringeth woorse torments to the mind then the stone of Sysiphus, vulture of Tityus, or wheele of Ixion. This is the canker that fretteth the quiet of the thoughts, the moth that secretly consumeth the life of men, and the poyson specially opposed against the perfection of loue: after the heart is once infected with iealousie, the sleepes are broken: the dreames disquiet slumbers: the thoughts, cares and sorrowes: the life, woe and misery: that living he dies: and dying, prolongs out his life in passions woorse then death. None looketh on his loue, but suspition sayes, this is he that couets to be corriuall of my fauours: none knockes at his doore, but starting up, he thinkes them messengers of fancy: none talkes, but they whisper of affection: if she frowns, she hates him, and loues others: if she smile, it is because shee hath had successe in her loues: looke she frowardly on any man, she dissembles: if she fauors him with a gracious eye, then as a man straught with frensie he cryeth out, that neither fire in the straw, nor loue in womens lookes can be concealed; thus doth he liue restlesse, and maketh loue, that of it selfe is sweet, to be in taste as bitter as gall.

This detracters (reuerent Senators) that loue being of it selfe, a most excellent passion, is onely blemisht by this foule and disgraced staine of iealousie, as hatefull and hurtfull to the minde, as a Cockatrice to the eye, or Hemlocke to the taste. The pureſt Chrysolite hath his strakes, the flowers in Sydon as they are precious to the sight, so they are pestilent in sauour: Loue as it is diuine with loyaltie, so it is hellish with iealousie: wherefore by an ancient Poet were written these verses.

When gods had fram'd the sweet of womens face,
And lockt mens lookes within their golden haire:
That *Phœbus* blusht to see their matchlesse grace,
And heauenly gods on earth did make repaire:
To quippe faire *Venus* ouerweening pride,
Loues happy thoughts to iealousie were tide.

Then

Then grew a wrinkle on faire *Venus* brow,
The amber, sweet of loue, is turned to gall:
Gloomy was heauen: bright *Phœbus* did avow,
He could be coy, and would not loue at all:
Swearing, no greater mischiefe could be wrought,
Then loue vnited to a iealous thought.

Had not Iuno beene iealous ouer Iupiter, Io had not been turned into an Heifer: if suspition had not pricked Menelaus, Helena had not stolne away with Paris. Procris had beene aliue, had she not suspected Cephalus. Then worthy Romanes, we see what a pretuditiall monster groweth from the fearefull excesse of loue, that shorteneth not onely the life, disquieteth the mind, but oft is the cause of most strange and vnnaturall massacres. If fortune frowne in loue, we site to patience: if there happen iars, why louers brawles are introductions to delight. If pouerty, why they hope vpon time, thinking that there is *Vicissitudo omnium rerum*, the lowest ebbe may haue his flow, and the deadest neape his full tide: if griefes, sorrowes, repulses, vnkindnesse, these be but *Amantium ira*, And therefore *Amoris redintegratio*: but as the punice-stone freeth the paper from spots, and the fire consumeth flaxe: so this infernall plague of iealousie, rooteth and raceth all true loue from the heart, that yeelding my censure, I conclude with this Poeme.

Vita quæ tandem magis est iucunda,
Vel viris doctis magis expetenda,
Mente quam pura sociam ingalem,
Semper amare?

Vita quæ tandem magis est dolenda,
Vel magis cunctis fugienda, quam quæ
(Falsò suspecta probitate amica)
Tollit amorem?

Nulla eam tollit medicina peſtem,
Murmura, emplaſtrum vel imago ſaga,
Aſtra nec curant, Magicæ nec artes,
Zelotypiam.

Archias hauing thus ended his diſcourſe, the Senators greatly praiſed his deſcription of iealouſie, and from that fell to other pleaſant talke as occaſion offered. Full dinner being done, they aroſe, and after many thanks & curteſies according to the cuſtome of the Romans, Flaminius, to honor Lentulus the more, taking him by the hand, carted him into a garden, where Terentia ſate accompanied with other Virgins of Rome; Namely Flauia, Cornelia, and Iulia, all of ſuch exquiſite features as they ſeemed to be the choyce Paragons of that time. Lentulus amazed at this gorgeous ſight, wondred not onely at their beauties, but marueiled why Flaminius brought him ſo friendly into their preſence. At laſt, the old man burſt forth into theſe words: Lord Lentulus, I meaſure the thoughts of yong Gentlemen, by the prime of my forepaſſed youth no: being ſo Cynicall, as with Chremes in Terence, to porportion young affections, by the cinders of old age, but to thinke with Menedemus, that the ſpring hath flowers and bloſſomes, whereas Winter hath dried branches, and tawny leaues. We old men, ouer whom Saturnus is predominant, hauing infuſed melancholy in our mindes, couet either to ſit ſolitary, or that our talke be ſerious: you that are young, whoſe thoughts aime at delights, ſeeke to paſſe the time in pleaſant diſcourſes. Leſt therefore the time might be tedious, I haue brought you amongſt theſe faire Ladies, that you may make experience of loues, as you haue done of Warres: Mars no ſooner puts off his helmet, but he ſalutes Venus: and you come from conqueſt of the Parthians, ſee how you can enter combat with paſſions: and ſo, Lord Lentulus, I leaue you.

Lentulus, ſeeing himſelf thus inuironed with theſe miracles of beauty, caſting his eyes upon the goddeſſe, whoſe fauorable aſpect might be the ſumme of his fortune, bashed at the firſt, as Paris did in the vale of Ida, and ſtood as the

foes

foes of Perseus when he uncaled the head of Medusa, and turned them to marble pictures: so amazed stood Lentulus at the sight of such diuine excellency, till the Ladies seeing this Souldier thus in a quandary, began to smile, which couuing a kind of amorous choler in the Souldiers minde, he began thus to play the Champion.

Ladies, beleeue me, Loue is of more force then warres, and the lookes of women pierce deeper then stroke of launces: there is no curtleax so keene, but armour of high proofe can withstand: but beautys arrowes are so sharpe, and the Darts that flye from womens eies, so piercing as the Coslet tempered by Vulcan, for Diodores Paramour holds not out the violence of their stroke. The gods tremble when Mars shaketh his Launce, but he feareth when Venus casteth a frowne. Alexander neuer tooke notice of the Legions of his enemies, but he stood frighted at the beauty of the Amazon. Then, sweet saints of Rome, maruell not if I were driuen into a maze at the sight of such beauteous creatures, whose faces are Venus weapons, wherwith she checketh the pride of ouer-daring Warriours: I cannot (Ladies) court it as your Romane youngsters, that tye their wits to their fancies: nor fill your eares with amorous discourses, as Cupids Apprentices that spend their time in such louing Philosophy: nor can I faine conceited suppoles of affection, to proue my selfe lone sicke by Poetry. But as a Blunt Souldier new come from the warres, I offer my selfe a deuout seruant to your beauties, swearing to defend your Honours against all men with the hazard of my blood, and in pawne thereof generally vnto you all, but especially to one (as loue hath his vnity) I desire to be entertained as a dutifull seruant to the Lady Terentia. Lentulus hauing thus boldly boorded these louely Virgins, the Ladies seeing with what affection he offered his seruice to Terentia, began to bite the lip, and she to blush, who seeing her selfe toucht to the quicke, made him this answere.

I know not (Lord Lentulus) how to answere of loue, because as yet I neuer knew loue: ignorant of his forces, because neuer acquainted with his fortunes. Vesta forbids vs

Virgins

Virgines to name Venus, as they of Ephesus hateful Erostratus. Diana deales not in Paphos, nor suffers the imp of her Paydens to hunt on Erecynus: lest meeting with Venus mecocks, they skip with Calisto, and so seeke after losse. The lesse you are priuate to loues passions, the more we come to our presence: for rather had we fill our eares with warres fortunes, then with loues follies: and sweeter are the teares that grow from a constant stratagem, then a smile from a Comick tale of fancy. For your seruice (Lord Lentulus) finding my self unworthy, I crane pardon: Nor can we by Vestaes charter admit such seruants. But if it please you to be accepted as a worthy Roman, and my Fathers friend, looke for such fauour as mine honour and virginity can afford.

Lentulus, hearing the plausible answere of Terentia, although her first insinuating seemed to answere for her purpose, as preferring the Lawes of Diana, & fires of Vesta, before loues holy Temples, yet she concluded so sweetly as might stand with the modesty of her honour: he therefore made thus his reply.

In that Madam we are both nouices in love, the simpler are our thoughts, and the nearer should be the sympathy of our affections. Doues match when they are yong. Spens are grafted when they are sprigs, the one part not, but by death, nor are the other seuered but they perish. Souldiers are like virgins, the one striuing to liue vertuous, the other die valiant: both enemies to loue while they wait on those which brooke not loue, I meane warre and Vesta: but both must loue, as hauing hearts and thoughts, eyes to see beauty, and eares to iudge of vertues. I Madam, while I thought none greater then Mars, was bowed to Mars, but seeing womens wits are worse then weapons, that their lookes pierce deeper then lances, I haue resigned ouer my fortunes at the shrine of war, and meane to make proofe of the sweetnes of loue: glad that in my first entrance I haue the patronage of your gracious fauour, armed with the which, Mars will may frowne, but not conquer. But sir, quoth Terentia, I granted my fauour to Lentulus the souldier, not to

Lentulus

Lentulus the louer. And so Madame, quoth he, accept of it: for I am a Souldier to do you honor, and a louer despite of my selfe. Flauia hearing Lentulus begin to reason prettily to the purpose, being a Lady of pleasing merrie disposition, whose wit was as full of wiles, as her face of fauour, second to the excellencie of beautie to the Ladie Terentia, thought to sift her Souldier in this manner.

I see well, Lord Lentulus, that as women haue their fauours, so men haue their sayings: the one prodigall in graces, the other politike in deceits, being as cunning to dissemble loue, as we chary to discharge loue. Wee Romane Ladies thought to haue found you a flat Souldier, as ignorant in loues as wee in fancies: but how closely soeuer you couer the flame, the fire will be knowne by the smoke: for your talke so fauours of Loues principles, as we iudge you are as cunning in fayning a passion, as in figuring a battel, and can as soone deceiue a woman with a penne, as slaughter an enemy with a Launce. This will make vs to take you for a day-friend, & what we like in you present, to disallow to morrow, sweating if you bring amongst vs Venus roses, we will beat you with Vestaes nettles: and therefore if you will be admitted as our Souldier, wee either forbid you the name of loue, or else you shall be out of our fauors. Cornelia willing to breake a iest with the Champion, thwarted Flauia thus. And what of that, Madame, hath not warre taught him patience? hee hath past sharper brunts then womens frownes. But now, your leuel is without aime; If Madame Terentia smile, his penny is good siluer, tis her fauor, that is the loadstarre of his fortunes: and how can we enter into her thoughts but by coniectures? shee full of beautie, and he a proper young Gentleman. At this trump the Ladyes smiled, and Terentia blusht for anger. But Lentulus, seeing such a broad iest pind on his shoulder, willing to make answere for his Mistris, although he was fore put to his trumps, as halfe set at a Non plus, yet hee followed his fortunes thus.

Indeed, Ladies, thinke I haue patience to beare womens trumps, that haue encountred an enemies blow; but if I

could as well answere the one, as quit the other, you should neither carry it to hell, nor to heauen. But to reuenge my selfe as well as I can, thus. First, Madame, to cleere my cunning in loue, I referre my selfe to the verdict of your owne conscience: who, were you but as fauourable as you are frowish, would soone censure by my talke, how deepe I am read in loues principles: but women speake by contraries, crying like the lapwing farthest from their nests, & so I take it being checkt for ouermuch loue, when you see I am a nouice in loue. Or perhaps, Madam Flauia, you would haue mee loue: if it bee so, I will become more studious to satisfie your wish: but you calling mee a day-friend, that peremptory punishment were passing sharpe, for one fault to shake mee out of seruice, were it not, that for so deepe a wound the Lady Cornelia bringeth in a lenitiue playster, alleadging my securitie if I bee armed with Terentias fauour. Blame mee not, sweet goddesse, if I ayme at the fairest: Souldiers haue eyes to iudge of beautie, though they haue not weapons to winne beautie, and eares to deeme of perfections, though they want tongues to discouer passions. The harmony of loue, I haue heard them say, consists in vnities, and nothing more preiudiciall to fancie then plurality, either of thoughts or of persons. Among many then, am I charged, but to like of one Mistris: If I make choice of Terentia, and shee vouch to grace mee with her fauour, Cornelia concludes truely, that armed with the imagination of her beautie, I thinke my selfe able to brooke your frumps, and to withstand the hardy resolution of Mars.

I maruell then, quoth Flauia, halfe in choler (if womens beautie be like Delphicus gladius, of high proofe to defend, and of sharpe edge to offend) why the Senators choose not out legions of Ladyes, that with little cost, and great assurance, they may make conquest of the world: but perhaps all Souldiers be not of your temper, for they vse their weapons, and you your lookes.

No Madame, quoth Lentulus, that is not the cause, for were it not that euery woman would bee a Captaine, and

ſtriue for ſupremacy, they had reſolued vpon this long ago, but fearing a mutiny amongſt themſelues for ſuperiorities, ſith euery one at home will be counted moſt wiſe, and moſt beautifull, though their wits be meane, and fauours leſſe, the Senate are glad to foreſee ſuch an inconuenience. The Ladies hearing how cunningly Lentulus had gald Madam Flauia on her right ſide, began all to ſmile, and ſhee after a bluſh for very anger, beganne to laugh. Lentulus, glad that he had giuen her a ſop of the ſame ſawce, and paid her her debt in her owne coyne: Calling to his boy to fetch him a Lute, willing to ſhew his Pittris hee was not ignorant in Muſicke, ſaid, hee would prooue the force of beautie by a Sonnet, which hee heard was made by Orpheus when hee fell firſt into loue with Euridice: tuning therefore his Lute to his voyce, he ſung this Ditty.

Mars in a fury againſt loues brighteſt Queene,
Put on his helme, and tooke him to his launce:
On *Erecynas* mount was *Mauors* ſeene,
And there his Enſignes did the god aduance;
And by heauens greateſt gates he ſtoutly ſwore,
Venus ſhould dye, for ſhe had wrong'd him ſore.

Cupid heard this, and he began to cry,
And wiſht his mothers abſence for a while:
Peace foole, quoth *Venus*, is it I muſt dye?
Muſt it be *Mars*? with that ſhe coyn'd a ſmile:
She trimm'd her treſſes, and did curle her haire
And made her face with beautie paſſing faire.

A fanne of ſiluer feathers in her hand,
And in a Coach of Ebony ſhe went:
She paſt the place where furious *Mars* did ſtand,
And out her lookes a louely ſmile ſhe ſent.
Then from her browes leapt out ſo ſharp a frowne,
That *Mars*, for feare, threw all his armour downe.

He vow'd repentance for his rash misdeed,
Blaming his choler that had caus'd his woe,
Venus grew gracious, and with him agreed,
But charg'd him not to threaten beauties so:
For womens lookes are such inchanting charmes,
As can subdue the greatest gods in armes.

¶ Lentulus, hauing sung this Ditty, Terentia willing a little to shew her wit, began thus: I remember, Lord Lentulus, I haue heard my father say, that Souldiers were wont to carry fauors in their helmes, not fancies in their heart: and made choise of their Mistris to incourage their thoughts, not to inchant their affections. But I see, the ancient honour of the Romanes is slipt from prowesse to passions, and the men count to be counted rather amorous wooers, then hardy warriors: gazing Mars in the face with bright Armour, but offering Orizons to Venus in secret conceits. This did not Quintus Lentulus Cincinnatus, who set it downe as Crimen capitale to speake of loue in the army. Nor Scipio Affricanus the great, who made Lawes that no women should be brought prisoners within the Campe, least loue entring pell mell with warre, might hazard the hautinesse of their honors. And yet Madam, quoth Lentulus, Cincinnatus had a Wife, & Scipio was married. But, quoth she, it was in their age, rather chosen for succors, then amorous passions: their youth was wholly spent in wars as enemies to loues, counting fancy as a dishonor to their martiall dignities: rightly, indeed with a deep insight entring into the enormities that grew from following too precisely the court of Venus. For beleeue me (Gentleman) Poets and Painters erre much that ascribe a deity to Cupid, & were worthy to beare some grieuous punishment for such a new inuented Heresie, which I shall approue with a Sonnet that one of Dianaes Nymphes made, when Iupiter had faulted with Calypso. And so Terentia taking the Lute in her hand, began to warble this roundelay.

Fond

Fond fayning Poets make of loue a god,
And leaue the Lawrell for the myrtle boughes:
When *Cupid* is a childe not past the rod,
And faire *Diana*, *Daphnis* most allowes.
Ile weare the Bayes, and call the wagge a boy,
And thinke of loue but as a fooliſh toy.

Some giue him bow and quiuer at his backe,
Some make him blind, to ayme without aduice:
When naked wretch ſuch feathred bolts he lackes,
And ſight he hath, but cannot wrong the wiſe.
For vſe but labours, weapons for defence,
And *Cupid* like a coward flyeth thence.

He's god in Court, but cottage cals him childe,
And *Veſtaes* Virgins with their holy fires
Doe clenſe the thoughts that fancie hath defilde,
And burne the Palace of his fond deſires.
With chaſte diſdaine they ſcorne the fooliſh god,
And proue him but a boy not paſt the rod.

Terentia hauing ended her roundelay, as Lentulus was readie to reply, Flaminius came into the Garden with the reſt of the Senators, whoſe graue preſence brake off their amorous prattle, ſo that he leauing the Ladies, taking his leaue friendly of them all, but eſpecially with a pittifull glancing looke at Terentia, as crauing ſome fauour for his farewell, he went to the Senators, amongſt whom he diſcourſed long of the manner & cuſtome of the Parthians, of their reſolution in wars, & of ſuch ſerious matters concerning martiall diſcipline. Paſsing thus away part of the afternoone, the company at laſt taking their leaues, yeelding great thanks to Flaminius for their good cheere, they parted to their ſeuerall Manſions. Lentulus, ſlipping from the reſt of the Company, with a gracious courage tooke his adue of Terentia and the other of the Ladies, vowing to be theirs euer in any due honorable ſeruice: and ſo ſtraining Terentia by the hand, went home with Titus Annius Milo: where

hee found Marcus Tullius Cicero, then a youth in Rome, about the age of twenty yeeres, and very priuate and familiar with Milo. The fame of this Tullies surpassing Eloquence was so bruted abroad in Rome, as they counted him the myrror of that time; and as in Greece they wondred at Demosthenes for his Orations, and the popular people fed their eies with his sight, so as Tully past through the streets, they cryed out, Hic est ille Cicero, saying, that as Orpheus with his Musicke made the stones and trees pliant to his melody, so Tully tyed the peoples eares to his tongue by his eloquence: And that Plato, who for his Philosophicall sentences was called diuine, in whose lips Bees rested, as presaging his future excellencie, was inferiour to Tully in his musicall concord of his phrase. Lentulus noting his perfections, although his Parentage was base, yet thinking his eloquence might be profitable to his loues, grew to be very familiar with Tully, insomuch, that of vnacquainted Citizens, they grew to bee deare and priuate friends, that their thoughts were united with a sure league of amitie, & their hearts were receptacles for their mutuall passions, so that their most secret affaires were frankly participated without any doubting suspition. But leauing their familiaritie, conuersing in Miloes house: Let vs, Gentlemen, see how Terentia brookt his departure. Cornelius Nepos forgets it in Tullies life, but if you will beleeue me, it was thus.

No sooner were the Senatours and Lentulus departed from Flaminius house, but Flauia and the rest of the Ladies tooke leaue of Terentia, who being solitary by her selfe, sitting alone in an arbour of Roses, began to ruminate on the Idæa of Lentulus perfection, and to call to minde his seuerall and singular qualities, his parentage, his person, honours, & his great possessions, but all in vaine. Loues poyson was preuented with an Antidote, and her thoughts sealed vp with an inuincible chastitie. For after shee had long sate, at last with a smile she burst forth into these termes.

If Venus could not infuse more dismall aspects in other Ladies thoughts, then into my minde, they should neyther hold her as a Goddesse, nor honour her temples with presents:

lents: Fond are those women that are inquisitiue after Astrologers, whether Venus bee retrograde, or combust in their natiuities. Had they but tasted the sweete sauours of Vestaes incense, they would abandon her as a Planet careleſſe in their natiuities, & not trouble the Augures or Aruſpices to cenſure of their fatall or fortunate fancies. For had they but inſight into the ſweet life of Virgins, how ſecure they liue, if they liue vertuous, they would neuer intangle themſelues with the inconſtant ſnares of fancie. Veſta allowes vs free thoughts, Venus diſquiet paſsions: at her Altars we haue ſweete ſleepes, in the others Palace broken ſlumbers. Diana counteruailes our labors with myrth and quiet: in Cyprus wee find toyle mingled with care and ſorrowes. Being Virgins, we haue libertie; married, we tye our ſelues to the variable diſpoſition of a huſband, who, be he neuer ſo excellent in perfection, or exquiſit in proportion, wee ſhall finde ſufficient whereof to gather diſlike. Then Terentia, let Lentulus paſſe with his honours hee hath ſubdued. What though Alexander wonne the whole World? his glories are but fortunes fauours. Account him then as thou promiſedſt, thy fathers friend, and thine as farre as he treates not of wedding: and with this upon a ſodaine ſhee ſtart up, and went to paſſe away the time amongſt companie, holding Cupids Dettie at diſdaine, and accounting of loue, as the Samnites did of gold, which they ſent as preſents to their enemies, but baniſht from their owne Common-wealth. But Flauia, poore Lady, was not pierced with ſo eaſie a paſsion, for ſhee hauing more deepely imprinted in her thoughts, his honours and vertues, and meaſuring the man by the height of his fortunes, fell into theſe bitter complaints.

With what little proportion doth iniurious loue beſtow his fauours? With how ſmall regard doth blind fortune powre out her treaſures? making in all their actions contrarieties, that ſo they may triumph in inconſtancie: loue hath brought Lentulus from the warres to Rome, onely to ſee Terentia: Fortune hath brought Flauia to the houſe of Flaminius only to loue Lentulus: ſhe little regardeth him, he lightly

lightly respecting me. Thus hath the contrariety of Loue and Fortune made Lentulus vnhappy, & mee without hope. Ah, but Terentia, though she seeme too coy, at the first, will be more courteous at the last, when she hath had but a moneths meditation on the excellency of Lentulus. Then oh, then sigh Flauia, and say, Oh, then will Terentia not reiect so honorable a personage, when shee considers his youth, his beautie, his parentage, his dignities. Lentulus no sooner shall wooe, but she shall be wonne. This is the coniecture of her hap, and the despaire of my hope. And yet it may bee that the destinies haue appointed their disagree. For starres are sticklers in loue, & fates are principall fautors of wedlocke. If my prayers may serue to Venus, if my incense to Cupid, if my vowes to Lucina, if my suite to Ioue, let their loue perish in the bud, and wither in the blossome. Had I Medeas magick, the drugs of Calypso, the inchantments of Circe, the skill of Hecate, all these should bee imployed to breake the loue of Terentia and Lentulus. Fond Flauia, to be so frantick in thy passions: suppose Terentia hated Lentulus, can this conclude, he will loue thee? No, his thoughts are settled, his rest is set downe, his vowes made, his fancie fixed, and all vpon that beautifull Terentia: I, there Flauia, that is the word that galleth, to the beautifull Terentia: for of such surpassing beauty is the lady, that as Cynthia brooks no compare with her glorious brother: so thou must not enter comparison with the daughter of that Senator Flaminius. But what is this to Lentulus? if shee bee faire, yea as faire as euer was Sulpitia, if she be as coy, and disdainful as Cælia, had he not better loue homely Flauia, who will countervaile with loue, what she wants in beauty: & proportion out in dutie, what shee defects in dignitie? But what of this? loue admits no exceptions, he cannot mislike ought in Terentia. Do: not present examples, yea instances executed in Rome auerre so much? is not Anthonio enamoured of the black Egyptian Cleoparra? doth not Cæsar enuy him in his loues, & couets to be corriuall of his fancies? affection is oft blind, & deemeth not rightly. The blackest Ebon is brighter then the whitest Iuory: & Venus thought Vulcan at the first a pro-

a proper stripling. Were Terentia neuer so coy, Lentulus will count her disdaine but chastity: yet Flauia pray then she may liue in this mistike, then hast thou yet some cause to hope, otherwise weepe thy fil, despaire, and then die, for sweeter is death, then to liue and see Lentulus enioy the loue of Terentia. Hauing at this period breathed a while, ready to go forward in passions, one of her waiting women came in, who breaking off her complaints, past away the rest of the day in prattle. Leauing her therefore and her maide at chat, againe to Lentulus, who tooke such inward griefe at this new conceited loue, that his colour began to ware pale, and to discouer passions, his sighes many and often to bewray his sorrowes, his sudden starts in his sleepes, and his musings surcharged with melancholy. These noted by Tully, his priuate friend, made him coniecture that somewhat was amisse with Lentulus. Hauing therefore fit opportunity, he he began to sift him in this manner.

The ancient Grecians (sweete Lentulus) that set downe principles of friendship, account the secret conuersing of friends, and their mutuall participating, either of priuate sorrowes, or concealed pleasures, the principall end of such professed amity. Therefore did Theseus choose Perithous, Orestes Pylades, & to that end, or else you wrong me, serues Tully to his Lentulus. If then it be requisite in friendship to abandon suspicious secrecy, I cannot but take it unkindly, that Tully is not made pataker of Lentulus passions. For as the Carbuncle is not hid in the darke, nor the fire shut up in straw, so sorrowes cannot so couertly be concealed, but the countenance will pourtray out the cause by the effects. Think me not then so blind, but I can iudge of colours, nor so simple, but I can deeme of affections: what meane these farre fetcht sighes, broken slumbers, this new delight, to be solitary, but that Lentulus feeling a passion that pierceth to the quick, yet seekes to keep it secret from his friend Tully? know this my good Lentulus, that smoake depressed, striueth more deadly: That the Ouen, the closer it is damd up, the greater is the heate: and passions, the more priuate, the more preiudiciall. Stop not then the streame, lest it ouer-

flow. Conceale not ſorrowes, leſt they ouercharge, and prooue like wounds, that kept long from the Chirurgian, grow to be incurable vlcers: If it be a Fathers frowne, an enemies wrong, a friends miſhap, reueale it, and ſeeke remedy. If Lentulus griefes haue left his honours in Parthia, feare not, Rome will haue more warres, and Lentulus new dignities. If the Senators haue dealt ingratefully: *Solamen miseris socios habuisse doloris.* The moſt famous Romanes haue ſore-runne thee in ſuch hard fortunes. Scipio ſubdued Affrica; what his reward was, let our annals report. If Lentulus miſſtakes ought in Rome, let him abandon Rome, and Tully will banith himſelfe from his country to go with his friend Lentulus. If ſince thy comming into this ſtore-houſe of natures prodigality, thine eye hath made ſuruay of any gorgeous Damſell, and ſo (my Lentulus) bee in loue, although wiſedome wils to hide amors euen from amity, and to lie lancy in the loweſt Cell of the heart, yet reueale it to thy friend Tully, and if any way he may eaſe his Lentulus paſſions, he vowes to ſaiute thy ſore, though with the hazard of his owne ſafety. Lentulus hearing his friend leuell ſo neere the marke, gaue a great grone at the name of loue, & ketching a deepe ſigh ſaid, *Ætna grauius Amor.* And with that, ſtarting from the place where he ſat, taking Tully by the hand, began thus.

Were it (my Tully) that my paſsions had any hope of remedy, or that my wound were ſuch as might be cured by counſell, long ere this had Lentulus powred his plaints into the boſome of his friend Cicero: but my ſorrowes, as they are piercing, ſo I haue kept them priuate, as hoping for no eaſe, and yet delighting in my martyrdome. The bird flyeth the ſnare of the fowler: ſo ſooner doth the woodman bend his bow, but the Deere trips through the lawnes: euery creature is taught by nature to feare his fall, & yet wretched Lentulus hunteth after his owne miſhap. So haue I deſcribed the fury of my paſsions, I cannot but ſay, it is loue that is thus impatient. Loue (my Tully) that is ſuch a Lord, as inſinuating his power with fauor, he keepes poſſeſſion by force. Warres haue their ends, either honors or death,

and

and in battaile, prowesse oft makes constraint of Fortune: but in loue, Delay is the unhappy deathsman, that holding thee up, neither saues nor kils. Since my comming to Rome (my Tully) couetting to conuerse with beautifull Ladies as before I had done with martiall souldiers, amongst many curious Pearles, I found one orient Pargaret richer then those which Cæsar brought from the westerne shores of Europe: so long I gazed at the beauty of this precious Iem, that I found my selfe glad with such affection, as well repeate I might, but recall I could not: and for thou shalt say the is loue-worthy, heare how in describing her excellency I haue played the Poet.

Lentulus description of Terentia in Latin.

Qvalis in aurora splendescit lumine Titan,
Talis in eximio corpore forma fuit:
Lumina seu stellæ radiantia sine capillos,
Lux Ariadne tua & lux tua Phœbe iacet.
Venustate fuit verbis, spirabat odorem,
Musica vox, nardus spiritus almus erat:
Rubea labra, gena rubra faciesque decora,
In qua concertant lilius atque rosa.
Luxuriant gemina formoso in pectore mamma,
Circundant niuea candida colla coma:
Denique talis erat diuina Terentia, quales,
Quondam certantes, Iuno, Minerua, Venus.

Thus in English.

BRightsome Apollo in his richest pompe,
was not like to the tramels of her haire.
Her eyes like Ariadnes sparkling starres,
shone from the Ebon Arches of her browes,
Her face was like the blushing of the East,
when Titan chargde the morning Sunne to rise:
Her cheekes rich strewed with roses and with white,
did staine the glory of Anchises loue.

Her siluer teates did ebbe and flow delight,
Her neck columnes of polisht Ivory.
Her breath was perfumes made of violets,
And all this heaven was but Terentia.

NO sooner had Lentulus ended his well written Poem, and concluded his cunning with the name of his Mistresse, but Tully hearing Terentia was the Saint at whose shrine Lentulus offered up his deuotion, entring his *Exordium* with a smile, he began thus pleasant.

And is there no fruit will serue your taste but such as grow in the gardens of Hesperides, nor no colour content your eie, but such as is stained by the fish Murex. Must your senses be fed with nothing but that is excellent, nor your loue haue no meane but to aime at the fairest? What, Terentia? the beauty of Rome? the prize of nature? the wealth of all the sauouring graces, whose excellencies are spred through the triple diuision of the world? I see (my Lentulus) soldiers haue eyes, as they haue hands, and thoughts as they haue weapons, and that how bluntly soeuer brought up in the wars, yet they are curious in the choises of their loues. Well, bee it. Lentulus loues Terentia, and honours to set his fancy on her, but he kept his loue secret from Tully, a fault to be suspicious of his friend. But why grieues Lentulus? Is not his parentage greater then the house of Flaminius? Is not his honours sufficient to counteruaile her beauties? Why then is he so impatient in so agreeable a passion? Lentulus upon this discoursed unto Tully, from point to point, the successe of his loues, how he gaue his charge ouer to Lepidus, onely that he might haue a sight of Terentia, and then recounting what prattle had past betweene him and her after dinner, her coy answeres, and firme resolution to remaine chast, craning counsell how hee might ease the disquiet of his thoughts. Tully pitying the extreame passion of his friend, deuised sundry meanes how to make him Lord of his desires. But after the discourse of sundry plots, it was decreed, that Lentulus should write to Terentia. Lentulus despairing of his owne stile and methode, required Tully to write him

a letter a passionate, and full of familiar eloquence, which at his request Cicero contrived after this manner: where by the way (gentlemen) I am to craue you to thinke, that Terentia kept the copy secret, so that it neither can be found amongst Lentulus loose papers, nor the familiar Epistles of Cicero. If the phrase differ from his other excellent forme of writing, imagine he sought to couer his stile, and in his pen rather to play the blunt souldier, then the curious Orator, neither vsing those *Verborum Fulmina*, that Papirius obiects, nor that sweet and musicall cadence of words, which he vseth to Atticus, but howsoeuer, or whatsoeuer, thus it was.

Lentulus Terentiæ salutem.

QVod natura in venustatis & formæ tuæ Idæa formauit (suauissima Terentia) nullo modo silentio præterire possũ. Ne cũ nimis cautus amoris ignẽ celare conarer, incautus tanquam Ætna meipsũ consumens, in cineres redigar. Cum inter Parthos versarer, nihil nisi bellũ & arma cogitãs, à Roma usque formæ tuæ pulchritudo, morumq; integritas à multis sæpe nunciata est. Cuius rei fama ea incũditate aures permulsit, vt (Syrenũ quasi cantu delectatus,) arma abjicere & amorem cogitare cœperim, meq; totũ in Terentiæ potestatẽ tradere non erubescerem. Diuina autem excellentia tua cogitatio, eos mihi pro tempore in bellicis negotiis addidit animos, vt breui deuictis & profligatis Parthis, totam hanc prouinciã Lepido commiserim, quem vnum tum honoris, tum fortunæ meæ participem feci, Parthisq; relictis Romam cõtuli, vt iucundissimo fructu, tum aspectus, tum consuetudinis tui frui liceat. Formæ vero & pulchritudinis tuæ dignitas, tanta tamq; excellens fuit, vt non modo famam, sed expectationem meam longe superarit. Vnde exquisitam tuam perfectionẽ oculis contemplans, & singulares animi dotes auribus accipiens, excellentiæ tuæ Idæam in imo pectore collocaui, meq; totũ amori, quasi constringendũ tradidi. Cum igitur tua vnius causa (suauissima Terentia) famam fortunasque & arma proiecerim, verum amantis officium fac præstes, & me non meritis, sed amore facias metiaris, vt iam ore tu mihi respondens, ego in omni officio

tibi ſatisfaciam. Taceo genus & parentes, quos tandem bonos ciues & Senatores fuiſſe conſtat: taceo triumphos, qui quales fuerint Capitolium populuſq; Romanus locupletiſsimi ſunt teſtes, de diuitijs non glorior, quas tamen mediocres eſſe conſtat, ſed virtutis vim & amoris conſtantiã tibi propono, quæ nec parui facienda, nec ingratitudine compenſanda ſunt. Me igitur fac redames (mea Terentia) & pulchritudini comitatem coniungens parentibus gaudio, amicis vtilitati, & Lentulo voluptati eſſe poſſis. Non diſerte, vt Orator, ſed peramanter, vt imperator tibi ſcribo, quod ſi amicis fidem, Lentulo amorem tribuas, vt parentibus gaudio, amori noſtro conſentire digneris, de patris voluntate nihil eſt quod dubites: ſed ſi alieno amore, non noſtro delectaris, dolores meos & angebo, et celabo, et quamcunq; in partem te flexeris tibi tum vitam tranquillam, tum mortem glorioſam, vt fideliſſ. amator exoptabo. Vale plus oculis mihi dilecta Terentia, & me tui deſiderio iam pene languentem, aut amas cito, aut oderis ſemper, vale & reſcribe.

Lentulus to Terentia, health.

I Cannot (ſweete ſoueraine of my thoughts, and chiefe mirror of our Romane excellency) ſmother that with ſilence which nature hath figured in the portraiture of my lookes, vnleſſe keeping the flame too ſecret, I ſhould, like Ætna, conſume to cinders. When ſeated amongſt the Parthians, hauing nothing in my thoughts, but warres and ſtratagems, thy beauty was repeated as ſpeciall newes from Rome, amongſt the Legions, the melody ſeemed ſo pleaſant to my cares, as if the muſicke of the Syrens had inchanted my ſences. I ceaſed from warres, to thinke of loue, and from loue to doate on the concrit of Terentia. The thoughts of thy excellency doubled ſuch courage in my attempts, that I conquered the Parthians, yeelded up their charge to Lepidus, made him partaker of my honors, and fortunes, and came to Rome, onely to ſee Terentia, whoſe ſight was ſo beauteous, and ſo farre beyond the report of fame, that mine eyes ſurueying exquiſitely thy perfections, and mine eares cenſuring of thy wit & vertues, both in league conſpired to preſent the Idea of thy ſelfe to the contemplation of my heart, which

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greedily entertaining such rare beauties, hath ever since remained a poore distressed captive. Sith then Terentia, thy Lentulus hath left his fortunes to follow fancy, & hath forsaken the warrs to winne thy loues, holding them more deere than country honour: shew thy selfe a Roman Lady, that striuing in minde to be matchlesse, thou maist be more prodigall in fauours, than I worthy in deserts, and yeelde me such meede for my loue, as Lentulus for his loyalty doth merite. I boast not of my parents, they are citizens, and of the Senate with thy Father. I speake not of mine honors, the Capitoll can witnes what shewts passed from the Romans as victors: what teares from the Parthians as vanquished: both these passions growing from the fortunes of Lentulus: My reuenewes are such as satisfie my desires. But all these are externall fauours, which though I rehearse, yet I brag not of. But the constancy of my loue, and the loyalty of my thoughts: these (Terentia) are gifts of the minde, deseruing no light esteeme, much lesse to be requited with ingratitude. Consider then (sweet goddesse) the sincerity of mine affections, weigh how Lentulus loues, and so vse him in loue, measure his fortunes by his fancies. As thou art beautifull, so vse iustice, giue every one his due: Honours to the gods, reuerence to thy father, faith to thy friend, and loue to Lentulus, and if it please thee to grace me with the title of thy husband Lentulus: for I couet to like honestly, not to loue wantonly. I write (Terentia) as a souldier without eloquence, and as a louer without flattery, if thou satisfie my loue with thy fauours, I doubt not to seale up thy content with thy fathers and friends agree. If either thou art tyed to former loues and mislike of mine, I will close up my sorrowes with silence. Howsoeuer it shall please thee to returne answere: liue with content, and die with honour.

Terentias new entertained souldier,
Publius Cornelius Lentulus.

If (gentlemen) I haue not translated Lentulus letter *verbatim* word for word, let me, in mine owne excuse yeeld these reasons,

reasons, that neither the familiar phrase of the Romans, can brooke our harsh cadence of sentences, nay durst I attempt to wrest Tullies eloquence to my rude and barbarous English, fearing, either to wrong so worthy an Orator in displacing, or rather disgracing his phrase: or in too far presuming, purchase your frowne, which I have ever in all duty sought to avoide. But howsoever my translation seemes wrested, I have kept his. And so to Lentulus, who hearing Tully reade the epistle, both conceited the method and allowed of the maner: Onely carefull where to get a fit and convenient messenger. Tully at last called to remembrance one Eutrapelus, an especiall friend of his, who frequented the house of Flaminius: by him did Lentulus send the Letter, and so living in hope of a happy answere, he left Tully in his study, and went to the Capitoll. Cicero no sooner was by himselfe, but calling to minde the description of Terentia, set out with such excellency by Lentulus in his new learned poetry, & weighing how all Rome wondred at her beauties, began to feele certaine sparkes of love kindled in his young desires, which made him blush at his owne thoughts, and smile that fancy should lie lurking amongst his library, to take him at discover. But as soone as he remembred that Lentulus was in love with her, the faith to his friend was a cooling card to his affections, and he quenched those sparkes at the first, lest suffered, they may grow to a great flame: yet was he maugre his head forced to say thus much.

Hast thou lived fortunate, and favoured in Rome? hath honour raised thee from a meane cottage, to be a companion to the sons of Senators? Do the Consuls make thee for thy learning one of the Prætextati? wilt thou for the hope of foolish beauty, staine all thy favours and fortunes with disgrace? May rather Tully, it will bee honour to woe the daughter of so famous a Roman: but shame to thee, to take the repulse and be denied. Thinkest thou Terentia will looke so low? will Eagles catch at Flies? Will the wonder of our time, the paragon of our age, allied to the noblest houses in Rome, make choice of so base and meane a person?

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What hast thou to deserve her loue, any more than a little babling eloquence? Womans eares are not their touchstones, but their eyes, they see and make choice, not heare and fancy. A dram of honor weighs downe a pound of wit, and better it is to court with wealthy reuenewes, than with sweet lines, or fine coucht poems. Thou hast nothing left but a poore farme called Cumanum, whose rents quit not the charges of thy studies. But suppose thou couldst win Terencia, suffice she is loued by Lentulus, and therefore from this day name her not in thy mouth, nor wear her in thy thoughts, least thou violate friendship, which thou oughtest to prize dearer than life. Thus Tully appeasing his passion went out of his studie, and willed Entrapelus to deliuer the letter with secrecy: who being one of Tullies chiefe familiars, went with all speed to the house of Flaminius, where finding the Lady Terencia sitting with Flania and Cornelia at worke, he being *homo facetus*, began merrily to commend their huswifery: and after some iests broken betwixt the gentlewomen and him, hee craued to speak with Terencia, about certaine serious affaires that greatly imported her father: Whereupon she rising and going with Entrapelus into her closet, he there deliuered unto her Lentulus letter. Terencia abashed at the sight, blushed, as halfe angry with Entrapelus, that he made himselfe messenger of so lasciue a matter: yet considering it came from so honorable a personage as Lentulus, shee vouchsafed it, and willed Entrapelus in the euening to come for an answere. He was no sooner departed, but Terencia unript the seales, and then read the contents: which being contrary to her resolution, shee determined to returne with a denial. But for that shee would make her friends priuy to her new loues passions, she went smiling in, and shewed them the letter. Upon poore Lentulus plainesong they all began to descant; Cornelia praising Terencias fortunes, that was so entirely beloued of so honorable and brave a Gentleman: but Flania hung the lip, and saying little, onely askt, what a lobbing answere she would write. I know not how to reply, quoth Terencia, he hath written so eloquently, and so cunningly. But, quoth Flania,

I durst pawne my credit it was written by young Tully, that brave Orator: For I haue read some of his Epistles, and it is both his methode, and his very phrase: That Tully, quoth Terentia, whom I haue heard my father and the Senators so highly commend for his wit, thinking him to exceede either Crassus or Hortensius? and with that sitting down, they began to enter into discourse of Tullies excellencies, concluding all, that he was as singular amongst the Romanes, as euer Demosthenes was amongst the Grecians. At last Terentia remembring her selfe, took leaue for a while of her two friends, & stealing into her closet, stepping to the standish, she was about to write; but calling to minde that discourse of Tullies perfections, letting fall her pen, she fell into a passion. Cupid waiting to spy this Vestall at aduantage, seeing her halfe at discouert, vnloosed a bolt, headed with Desire, and feathered with Conceipt, which piercing the tender brest of this yong Damsell, he made her shrinke at the blow, and so breath out this complaint.

Hast thou (Terentia) beene wondred at in Rome for despising loue, & wilt thou now (doting girle) stumble on desire? shall fancy Eclips all thy former glories, shall Vesta lose a virgin, and Venus win a wanton? Wilt thou resemble the buds of an Elder tree, which yong, are sweet and wholsome, but bloomed forth, are bitter and preiudiciall: thinke with thy selfe that Dianaes shrubs are more pleasant than Cupids bowers, the one harbours chaste thoughts, the other amorous fancies. Truth, but Lucina is a goddesse, love is diuine, and marriage honourable. Cedars are faire, but in yeelding no fruit, they purchase the lesse esteeme. To be a virgin is a glorious Title, but to liue euer so, is to wrong nature in her fauours: well, hast thou not then (Terentia) a Noble Gentleman of Rome, Lord Lentulus to be thy husband, a man whose youth is filled with honours, and whose spring time flourisheth with dignities? hath he not triumpht ouer the Parthians in conquest, and bound fortune to his temples with wreaths of victory? Is not his parentage one of the greatest families of Rome? Is he not for beautie like the faire Greeks paramour? For wisdome like wise Vlysses,

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that Cyrce could not inchant? For courage Hector, and of such reuenewes as may maintane thes with the most gorgeous Dames of Italy? But the chiefe of his graces, is he not enamoured of Terencia, and sues for her fauor? This I confesse, *Sed deteriora sequor.* Loue, ah that foolish passion which we learne Loue, allowes nothing excellent, but what it likes. It shadowed beggery in Crates; for Hypsicratea thought him rich, in that he was vertuous: deformity in Vulcan, for Venus would not beleeue he had a polt foot. Loue hath no lack, and lesse reason: yet must I loue. & whom? Ah Tully, sweete Tully, from whoses mouth flowes melody, more inchanting then the Syrens, on whose lippes the Muses make a new Parnassus, in whose thoughts rests Platoes diuine spirits, & in whose head is contained the subtill wit of Aristotle. Is not he as glorious in Rome for his eloquence, as thou for thy beautie? Do not the Senators wonder at his learning as at thy perfection? Why should not then both our singularities be linked in the union of loue: why should not Terencia liue to Tully, and Tully to Terencia? Ah but he is base, the first of his kin that tasted of honor. I but he is vertuous, and famous for his eloquence, graces that countervaile the meanes of his parents. I see loue hath reasons, bearing out of reason, still to argue against reason, therefore without further, *pro & contra*, in mine owne passions, I will loue Tully, and therefore thus to Lentulus: with that taking vp her pen, she wrote him this answere.

Terencia to Lentulus health.

When I read (Lord Lentulus) thy letters, and spied thy loues, I blusht at mine owne thoughts, and sorrowed at thy fortunes. I search not the cause of thy loue, for it sufficeth to me thou doest loue, if it lay in me either to grant thy desire, or satisfie thy passions: Thy reasons are sufficient to moue, were it not my vow, & my destinies direct my mind to contrary thy affections. Thy honors (Lentulus) knock at the closet of my heart, thy victories sue for their

Lords libertie, thy loyalty enters pell mell with my thoughts, and giueth a foyle assault to my setled resolution; all these put in their pleas to purchase fauor for young Lentulus. But Vesta, hard hearted Vesta, that makes her virgins pliant to her owne properties, commands that I shut mine eares against such allurings Syrens. I count my selfe greatly honoured with the loue of so worthy a Roman, and euer will Terencia coast to prooue as thankfull as hee affectionate; onely in loue pardon me, for that either I neuer meane to loue, or if I doe loue, my thoughts were fixed before Lentulus came from Parthia. Wade not there where the foord hath no footing, barke not with the wolues of Syria against the Moone; looke not to climbe to Olympus; aime not at impossibilities, but pacifie that with patience which thou canst not obtaine with bring passionate. If thou suest to my father, and hee grant to conclude a marriage, yet shalt thou want a bride: For I will first die before I violate my resolution. Seeke not then by my preiudice to ayme at thy owne content, which be it euery way, yet it shall neuer be in my loue: not that I hate Lentulus, but that my fortunes forbid mee to loue Lentulus. If thou thinkest these denials be but words of course, and perswadest thy selfe that women will be first coy, & then courteous, as the marble that drops of raine doe pierce, thou shalt deeply deceiue thy selfe, and highly wrong me: but I challenge thy promise, that howsoeuer I frustrate thy expectation, thou wilt burp thy conceit in silence. In which hope grieving that thy flowers came in Autumne, I wish quiet to thy thoughts, & an end to thy loues.

Thine euer, but in loue,

Terentia.

TErencia hauing thus ended her letter, and new begun her loues, the one directed to Leibnius, the other deuoted to Tully, she went straight to her two friends, Cornelia and Plania, shewing them the contents of the letter. Cornelia told she was too seuere & flouting in sending such a peremptorie

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forie answere to so braue a gentleman: Flania ouercharged with ioy, praised the resolution of Terentia, wishing that all maides were of her minde, misliking that which she most loued, thinking by retreating Terentia from the chace, to be mistresse of the game her selfe. Well, this letter at last was sealed and deliuered to Eutrapelus, who lying him fast to Tullies lodging, found Lentulus and him in secret, and serious discourse, and all God wot was about Terentia. Lentulus hauing receiued the letter, entring with Tully into his study, read the contents. No sooner had he viewed, and reviewed ouer her cruell determination, but in great extasie of mind he cryed out, *Dulcior est mors quam Amor.* And with that flinging out of his study, he fell into bitter and extreme sorrows. Tully grieuing at his friends hard fortune, sought with plausible perswasions to appeale his furious melancholy, wishing him whatsoeuer Terentia wrote, still to think her a woman, that would one while thrust out fancy with a finger, and straight entertaine loue as a friend: that either time or his constancy would make her stoope to the lure of his desires. Thus sought Tully to weell him from his passions; but in vaine: for her resolution confirmed with such effectuall & perswasiue determinations, so thwarted the conceit of his former hope, that going pasing melancholy to his bed, he fell into an extreme fever, which aggrauated with the inward anguish of his mind, grew to be so dangerous, that Asclapo the Physition, excellent at that time for his faculty, iudged the disease to be mortall. The Senators hearing of Lentulus sickneſſe, sorrowed, as fearing Rome by his death should be depriued of such high ensuing hope: his friends flocked to his lodging to visite him; who noting the heate of the Ague, and the passions of his minde, his sodaine starts, his gash lookes, and his abrupt answers, iudged the extremitie of his sickness had halfe brought him to a lunacy; all seeking by counsell to cure that which neither counsell nor medicine could mitigate. Frustrate of their expectation, they wished his weale, and returned with griefe. Onely Tully, whose settled friendship no misfortune could remoue, still day and night, as a second Esculapius, waited upon this

an adjective

perplexed patient. But as the depth of his passion pierced into the center of his heart, so the feuer increased, that generally Rome began to sorrow, so brane a warrior should bee cut off in the very prime of his fortunes: insomuch that the report of his sickness came to the eares of the three Ladies. Terencia made light account, as having her heart hardned with the loue of Cicero: but Flauia grew passing passionate, as being toucht at the quicke, with the weake disposition of Lentulus, wishing hee might haue cure for his malady, so it were not by the meanes of Terentia: shee frequented the temples, offred orisons, made vowes, & burnt incence to the Gods, that they would be fauourable to her louer Lentulus, coueting (if possible it might be) with the preiudice of her selfe to haue profited him: but in vaine Terentia was resolute, and hee was resolued as shee was dainty, so to die in despaire. Flauia, if her modesty might haue permitted, would haue accompanied with other Ladies, gone to his lodging, but the rights of Vesta forbidding such familiar conuersing, she rather was constrained by force, then withheld by reason. But seeing she could by no meanes come to his sight, yet to manifest the sincerity of her loue, she sent him a letter to this effect.

Flauia to Lentulus health.

IF I could (Lord Lentulus) pourtray with outward actions the secrecy of my passions, or force as many teares from mine eyes, as there fly sighes from my heart, The Anatomy of my thoughts would discouer a disquiet minde, & the source of mine eyes a fountain of bitter laments. But seeing that barrels, the fuller they bee, the lesser sound they yeeld; and where the current is deepest, there the water is most still; & the mind surcharged with extreames, hath least vtterance of griefe, I leaue you to suppose of my sorrowes, which I cannot manifest. But know (Lord Lentulus) that when the report of your sickness came to the eares of your new entertained friends, Terentia sighed, pitying with a common passion the ill of her countryman, but as one that

might

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might not relieue, being intercepted with other loues. Cornelia chid, as holding your selfe in highest esteeme, alleaging reasons to her that admitted no reason, but her owne loue, which is without reason. My selfe sorrowed, as wishing desert should haue his due, where the honor of the man merits no lesse: we perswaded in vaine, & in seeking to bring Terencia to the bay, we indeauoured to quench fire with words. Seeing then your thoughts leuel at a wrong mark, & that no sutes can diuert her from her froward conceipt, in carelesse extreames, vse patience, wrestle with loue being wronged by loue: yeeld not to the arrest of Cupids mace; but as he is yong, so hold him a boy. Consider, as Terencia is faire, so she is cruell; and as she is full of fauour, so she is too vnkinde.

Flie not with Apollo after Daphnis: Diana hath more Nymphes as chaste, and yet not so coy: use loue (my Lentulus) as children do puppies, which while they are pliant and gentle, they cherish up with crummes, but when they waxe churlish they beate away with strokes. Thinke Rome is the Mistris of the world, and hath many faire dames, if not of such excellency as Terencia, yet are they more curteous, and no lesse vertuous. The curious Herbalists measure not the plants by their colours, but by their properties: the Lapidaries make esteeme of their stones, not by the outward hue, but by their secret vertues. Vse then the ancient custome of Esculapius, let Lillies wither on the stalke, and weare violets in thy hand, the one faire and unfauory, the other black, but of sweet verdure. Let these counsels (Lentulus) comfort thee; apply them not as outward plaisters, but as inward potions: which if they profit, none shall be more glad then Flauia, who wisheth (if she might in this hard extreme) to discover the honour of her thoughts, and the resolution of a friend; if ought rests in me that may pleasure Lentulus, command it of Flauia, as one knowing Lentulus desires are wholly honourable. Thus praying thou maist have ease in thy passions, through end of thy loves, I will offer sacrifice for thy health, as she that feares her owne preiudice, without thy recouery.

Thine, Flauia of Rome.

No sooner had Flauia ended her Letter, but she sealed it, and sent it away: and with as much speed as might be, it was conueyed to Lentulus: who reading the superscription, and perceiuing it came from a woman, supposing it was sent from Terentia, started up in his bed, and rent open the seales. When he had read the Contents, and saw it came from Flauia, noting the extremitie of her loue by the plaine discouery of her passions, he said to himselfe,

Vniust loue that settles thy thoughts in crossing with contraries, some thou pierceſt with desire, other with disdain: infusing sundry effects in diuers affects; I couet Terentia, and she is cruell: Flauia fauours thee, and thou art tied to others loues. What rests in these extremes but to curse fancie, that maketh such a confused Chaos of her follies. Oppose then reason against affection, and admit not of loues conclusions, vnlesse [they bee approued principles. Thy thoughts are deuoted to Terentia, and she onely vouchsafes thee the verdict of her eares. Thou art more honorable then she of richer reuenewes than her dowry can satisfie, hauing as many deserts as she hath beauties: and yet, coy dame as she is, she twits thee with Vesta, when God wote Venus is the Goddesse that beareth her Orisons. If thou hast this insight into her thoughts, why wrongest thou thy self with such carelesse passions? If she be so ramage, let her flie, and seeke for a Mistresse that may prooue more gentle. Let her glory like Narcissus in her beauties: loue can chastise if it be but with selfe-loue. Vse no physicke Lentulus, but the consideration of this frowardnes. Let the dugs of Apollo serue for others, not for thee. Wrest out fancy by force, and setting Terentia at light esteeme, make choyce of Flauia: though she be not so beautifull, yet she is second to her in graces, and far beyond her in curtesies. Tie not thy selfe Lentulus so strictly to a womans face, beautie is but times flower, that as it is delicate, so it soone withereth: like the colors that Phydias drew in his pictures, which shewing most glorious to the eye, were yet blemisht with every breath. Venus was faire and wanton: Helen the miracle of Greece, but aske Troy of her qualities. Ah but Terentia is as chaste, as she is beautifull.

So

So is Flauia too, and far more louing. Her birth is of higher discent, her wealth more, her vertues no lesse: but her loue such as may challenge thy affection for debt. Ah but Lentulus, yet Terentia her excellency is more, then can be shaken off with so slight reasons: and with that hee shrunke downe into his bed, falling to his old complaints: yet did this Letter of Flauia somewhat comfort him, and he found it his best physicke. But leauing him in his bed, againe to Terentia, who felt the disquiet of her mind as restlesse. For the Senatours daily repayring to her Fathers house, had no other table-talke but the eloquence of Tully, some commending his wit, other his study, some his vertues, but all his speciall gifts of nature, that they put oyle into the flame, and with these praises so set on fire Terentias fancie, as nothing tumbled in her thoughts but the excellency of Cicero: being so impatient, as she sought by all meanes possible to come to his sight, and to feed her eyes with that wherwith she had inchaunted her eares, finding no ready way to attaine the end of her desires, vntil loue that like Mercury is full of shifts and subtilty, deuised this plot. Tully being borne in a little Village adioyning vnto Rome, called Arpinatum, died often to make his intercourse betweene the towne and the Citie for his pleasure: Which Terentia hauing learned out, thought the fittest meanes to haue a sight of her Cicero. So that one day, to take the ayre, accompanied with her two friends, Flauia and Cornelia, hauing but a page to attend vpon them, she walked abroad into the fields. Passing thus in merry chat towards Arpinatum, hauing some glaunces at the sicknes of Lentulus, they had not walked aboue a mile, before Flauia spied Tully comming from Arpinatum to Rome. Assoone as she had descried him, (for certainly she knew that it was he: ponder, quoth she, comes that odde man of Rome, that excellent Orator Marcus Tully Cicero, so highly renowned throughout all our prouinces for his eloquence: now shall we heare from Lentulus, for they are the most familiar friends, and priuate companions in Rome. Terentia at this as one wakened out of a dreame, gaue a start, and casting vp her eye, espied the Paramor of her thoughts, which droue

her into such an extasie, that surcharged with ouermuch ioy she felt an vnacquainted trembling in her ioynts. Seeing thus perplexed, Tully drawing nie, and seeing Terentia accompanied with her friend Flauia, gaue thankes to opportunitie, that thee had so highly fauored his friend Lentulus, as that he might now pleade for his safety. Tully thus incountring those three Roman damosels after a courteous Salue, which made Terentia blush, he began thus to booord them.

This place (sweet Romanes) so aptly agreeing to the persons, this valley resembling Ida, and Rome Troy, I cannot but iudg with Paris at the sight of three such goddesses, whose deity surpassed those, the shepheard iudicially surueied with his eye: humbly therefore saluting you as Dianaes darlings, and beauties wonder, seeing so small a traine for such excellent personages, although my affaires be serious and of importance, yet pleaseth you vouchsafe of my seruice, I will attend on your walkes, and conduct you to Rome. Terentia feeding her eyes on the sweete of Tullies face, and swilling down the nectar of his diuine eloquence, staining her cheeks with such a die, as did the faire Queene of Carthage courted by Eneas, she made him this answer.

How you make compare (Cicero) of this valley, with the plaines of Troy, as little skild in Geography, or read in Homers Iliads, I leaue without reply. For the Goddesses that Paris incountred, we are equall with them in number, though far inferiour to them in beauty. For your seruice we accept it, and for your wages, you shall haue gracious lookes, and harty thankes. Seeing therefore wee are marrie minded, suppose your selfe to be the Shepheard, which of vs all shall be your Venus? Not you Sabanne, quoth Tully, aboue all the rest: and why so quoth Terentia? because quoth Tully, the least flie hath his spleene, the smallest Ant her gall, no haire so little but hath his shadow, and no man so meane but he hath his enuy. Well by them (quoth Terentia) I will discard you from the office of Paris, as a man partiall. But I pray thee (Cicero) wherein should I offend thee hauing neuer seene thee before? In this, quoth hee, that Lentulus hath seene you: with that she blusht, and Flauia and Cornelia fell into a great

great laughter that Tully had so roughly crost her ouer the thumbs. Tully proceeding his purpose went forward thus. Foreknow Madam, that Lentulus the richest Trophee that Fortune sets vp in the Theatre of honor, made shipwracke of his libertie for the report of your beautie, leauing the warres, and the great hope of his fortunes, to haue a sight of Terencia, you vnkind, not like Venus in curtesie, though in fauours, haue counterpoyzed his fancy with millike, and for the hony of his amorous thoughts haue powred him downe heapes of bitter and displeasing gall. The cruelty of Creſſida neuer amated so the hardy Troilus, as the frowne of Terencia hath pierc'd Lentulus, making so deepe a wound, as no phylicke can cure, only your sweet selfe, whose resolutions are so far from the properties of your face, as it seemes the Gods wronged nature, in placing an aduamant hart within a Christall couerture. The Ladies hearing Tully so sharpe, bit the lip, and Terencia grieued: angry she could not be, as one that was ouer the shooes in affection, but thus she cut him off.

I cannot iudge (Cicero) by your sharpe and peremptory inuectiues, vpon so small acquaintance, but you professe your selfe a Cynicke. If your philosophy be such, I will brooke the blowes as well as Alexander, and thinke nothing ill that is spoken from Diogenes. Howsoeuer, or whatsoeuer, Cynike, or Stoicke, I argue thus against Lentulus, that vowes made to Vesta are to be holden inuiolated, and resolutions to liue a virgin are not to be broken with marriage. Cornelia & Flauia hearing them thus farre in by the eares, walked a little aside, and left Tully to schoole Terencia: who maintained her arguments thus. Suppose (Tully) it were not chaft thoughts, but new loues, that forced me to this refusall: haue not trees their strings, and women their fancies & affections? If this Autumne showers comming too late, cause not his crops to prone, whats that to me? Loue consisteth in vnity, the heart hath but one string, the heauen one Sunne, and the Iris one property, and women but one loue, and that I tell thee, Tully, is placed on one that is as famous for his vertues, as Lentulus for his wealth and dignities. And what then shall

I giue, or be rightly challenge: Tully, although he conceiued in his thoughts, that Terentia yeelded great reason, yet hee would not giue ouer the chase so, but made this reply. Ah but Madam, haue an insight into the depth of his affections, how he aimes not at your treasures, hoping to be inriched by your great dowry. For Lentulus is of the wealthiest family in Rome, but leuels at your vertues, the Syrens against whom he could not vse Vlysses policy. If affection be but a little past, if loue hath but drawn one line in your thoughts with his Pensil, wrastle with fancy, blot out loues shadowes, and helpe Lentulus: who if you remaine so cruell, shall bee no more Lentulus. If he die for loue, how shall the streets swarme with statutes of his constancy? If you bee knowne the chiefe Actor of the tragedie, how will the people murmure at your crueltie? With eigh this Madam, I speake as a familiar of Lentulus, and no enemy of Terentias honor. If hee bee a Romane that Terentia loues, let him either bee more honorable, more valiant, more affable, more excellent euery way then Lentulus, nay more louing then the poore gentleman else discard him for a man insufficient to taste of Terentias beauty; or to bee corriuall with Lentulus in his loue. Terentia had yeelded at this fierce assault, had not loue laid an instance before her of her resolution. For the more Tully pleaded for his friend, the more was Terentia enamored: so that she made him this answere.

If I knew how to certifie Lentulus of this dates discourse, he should highly reward you for playing so well the Orator. But I maruell Cicero, that being young, and of such eloquence, we heare not of your loues: I feare you reach so hie, that you thinke no maide in Rome honourable enough for your paramour. Were I a man, and had Tullies grace, and his tongue, I would plead for my selfe, and vse one word for my friend, and two for my selfe. So Madam (quoth hee) should men account me a faithlesse friend, and a flattering louer. But leauing these suppositions, Madam, how answer you my last reason? With loue (quoth she) and that is without reason, for how might the Gentleman, to whom I finde my selfe affectionate, thinke himselfe wronged, if without

cause

caule I ſhould be inconſtãt. Or ant I my loue to the meaneſt citizen a Monarch ſhall not make conqueſt of my thoughts. Suppoſe ſir it were your ſelfe, and that Terencia loued Tully, could you brooke another to braue you in your affection? I would Madam (quoth Tully) it were no ſuppoſition. And how then, quoth Terencia, if it were not? then would I, (quoth he) become Eſculapius to Lentulus, and ſweare his diſeaſe ſhould not be incurable, for I would coniure you, by the rites of Loue, by the ſacred lawes of Venus, and by the affections that were impʒinted in your thoughts, to beſtow what you would impart vnto me, to my only lord Lord Lentulus. But women cannot make loue voluntary. Tuſh Madam, what cannot women doe for loue? any thing, quoth Terencia, but change loue. Therefore concealing the party that I loue, I will ſay and ſweare Tully is my loue, and ſo ſay to Lentulus. With this Terencia bluſht, and for very griefe that Tully would not ſee into her thoughts, the teares ſtood in her eyes: which Tully eyeing, it ſo pricke him to the heart, that it neuer after was raſed out. To ſmooth therefore his rough method with a few fine filed phraſes, he ſalued the matter thus. It is (Madam) impoſsible to drive fire downeward, or to make heauy things to mount. Nature will not be wronged, nor loue drawn out by conſtraint, therefore I will leaue any more at this time to ſue for Lentulus, hoping the conſideration of his Partʒdome will at length make battery in the bulwake of your breaſt: and whereas you will ſweare Tully is your loue, you know (Madam) we haue in our twelue tables a law againſt periury, but if you vouch to grace me with that title, in all duty I will reſt your euer-bounden ſeruant. Why then ſeruãt quoth ſhe let vs to ponder two Ladies, that for want of a companion are faine to make an amorous Knight of my page. Flauia ſeeing they were halfe agreed, fearing Tully by his eloquence had perſwaded Terencia, waxed pale, and incountred them thus. What newes, quoth ſhee, doth Lentulus winne or looſe? Neither Madam, quoth Tully, but his caſe hangs ſtill in ſuſpenſe, the next court day I will end my Oration, and then the Judge ſhall giue verdict.

As they were ready to haue gone forward in some pleasant prattle, they espied a horseman making toward them with the greatest speed that might be. When he came within ken, Tully knew it to be Lentulus man; and before he had leasure to do his message, he demanded how his maister did. Passing sicke sir, quoth hee, and hath sent that you bee with him presently. Tully who was touch't to the quicke with this newes, put foote in the stirrop, and mounted, yet as one forgetting himselfe, hee vsed these words. Pardon Ladies, if I passe manners and promise, in leaping vp without leaue, and returning in such post without your company. It is for Lentulus, whom you all loue, and therfore I hope to rest blamelesse. Now Madame Terentia, what shall I say to Lentulus? No more quoth she, then what I said to Tully: but how conclusion Tully of his last promises? that, quoth hee, Terentia shall frame the argument, and so, with this darke Enigma, he tooke his leaue of the Ladies: who after his departure, fell in talke of his perfection. Terentia so deeply praising the man, that her companions easily perceiued her loues, and smiled, that in forsaking a flower, shee light vpon a weede. Well, tracing still amongst the Meadowes, they chanced into a valley most curiously decked with Flowres delicate, in which were such varietie of flowers, that Nature seemed there to haue planted the storehouse of her prodigalitie. Adioyning to this valley, was a pleasant riuer: a groue, that gaue a grace to Cloris excellency: delighted with the situation of this place, as they passed along, they met a shepheard, who doing reuerence to the dames: Terentia demanded of this swaine, what the name of this pleasant place was. Madam (quoth he) we shepheards here call it the vale of Loue. And why so, quoth Cornelia? Although Madam, quoth hee, my flocke hath no guide but my dogge, and now in the yeaning time the Woules are very busie, yet, for that I see you are Senators daughters, and withall, passing courteous, I will shew the reason, and with that leaning on his staffe, the Ladies sitting downe, began thus.

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The Shepheards tale.

NOt many yeeres since, here in Arpinum dwelt a shepheardesse called Phillis, so famous for her beautie, that the Senators sons (which you call *Prætextati*) not only came to feed their eyes with her favours, but to satisfie their fancies with her loues: insomuch, that she was courted of many braue Romane Gentlemen. But she that held loue at the staffs end, although her parents had left her rich, yet to banish Cupid with labour, she vouchsafed to be keeper of her owne flockes, fearing the pride of her beauty (if she should marry with one of Rome) would prooue an enemy to her humble thoughts: Liuing as chaste as she was inrolled for a vestall, and quoted by Diana for one of her speciall followers, her excellency was bruted through all Italy. But she, who feared to gaze at starres, for stumbling at stones, laid her thoughts low, and made choice of her company with country maids, and homely shepheards: yet was her attire rich, as diuerse that trauelled this way, tooke her rather for a Nymph, the follower of some goddesse, then a maide, and daughter of a poore Farmer. Whilst thus she liued Lady of the field, there was in the same village one Coridon, set to a simple shepheard, who was a mercenary man, kept sheepe for Varinius the Senator that hath a farme hard by. This Coridon was a man of perfect perfection, his heire hung in tresses, and his face was beautifull: wise he was, and wanted but wealth, to make him the chiefe of all the shepheards, being of equall yeeres almost with Phillis, some two yeeres elder, he fell extreamly in loue with Phillis. Enamored was poore Coridó, and pensiue by his flocke sate ruminating of his passions, he smothered his loue in silence, for that he was the meanest of the Swaines, and the vnfittest of vs all. He sate & sighed, & had none but eccho to pitty his plaints: his flocke left their foode to see their masters sorrow: his pipe ceast, the folds were no more partakers of his melody, and all these thoughts and cares for Phillis. She wily, & spying this wanton dally in the flame, look'd narrowly into the perfection of the man whom she found worthy of loue, if his Parents had not beene too meane, and his wealth none at all, suppressing this

this loue with lacke, and quenching the fire with the defects she found in Coridon. But Cupid that could not brooke such exceptions, pittying the passions of the poore Shepheard, pulled foorth an inuenomed bolt, and pierc'd Phillis so deepe, that Coridon began to be master of her thoughts: Now shee prais'd his beauty, his behauiour, his wit, his gestures, so that nothing was amisse in Coridon. If he piped, Apollo was not like her Pan, if he sung, his voice was without compare, if he told tales, they were excellent, if he put forth riddles, they were witty, Coridon was the shepheard that Phillis did fancy, & no flockes might graze by hers, but those of Coridon. This (Mistris) can loue doe, who though hee be choicely honoured in Rome, yet he finds some idle time to dally amongst shepheards. Well, at last Coridon spied Phillis lookes, and got some hope of fauour: first he courted with his eyes, and after natures law fell to prattle, with interchange of glaunces, after from lookes to words, which after their homely fashion was very faithfully performed with sighes & teares, such perswasions as shepheards vse. Long had they not wooed, but Phillis was willing, and she was wonne, that after faith and troth, as soone as the shepheards could come together, a feast was made, we kept holiday, and they were married: and because the Louers made this place the Concealer of their passions, the sheepeheards for perpetuall memory of Phillis and Coridon, call this the vale of Loue, and in praise thereof wee Country shepheards made an Ode, which if it please you to stay, I will rehearse. The Ladies passing willing, thus the shepheard gan report.

The Shepheards Ode.

WAlking in a valley greene,
Spred with *Flora* summers queene:
Where she heaping all her graces,
Niggard seem'd in other places.
Spring it was, and here did spring,
All that Nature forth can bring:

Grone,

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Groues of pleasant trees there grow,
Which fruit and shadow could bestow:
Thick leaued boughes small birds couer,
Till sweet notes themselues discouer:
Tunes for number seeme confounded,
Whilst their mixture musicke sounded:
'Greeing well, yet not agreed,
That one the other should exceed,
A sweet streame here silent glides,
Whose cleer water no fish hides.
Slow it runnes, which well bewraid,
The pleasant shore the current staid:
In this streame a rocke was planted,
Where no art nor nature wanted,
Each thing so did other grace,
As all places may giue place:
Onely this the place of pleasure,
Where is heaped natures treasure.
Here mine eyes with wonder staid,
Eyes amaz'd and mind afraid:
Ramisht with what was beheld,
From departing were withheld.
Musing then with sound aduice,
On this earthly paradise:
Sitting by the Riuer side,
Louely *Phyllis* was diseri'd:
Gold her haire, bright her eyne,
Like to *Phœbus* in his shine:
White her brow, her face was faire,
Amber breath perfumde the aire,
Rose and Lilly both did seeke,
To shew their glories on her cheeke:
Loue did nestle in her lookes.
Baiting there his sharpest hookes.
Such a *Phyllis* ne're was seene,
More beautifull then loues Queene.
Doubt it was whose greater grace,
Phyllis beauty, or the place

Her coate was of a scarlet red
All in pleats, a mantle spred,
Fring'd with gold: a wreathe of bowes
To checke the Sunne from her browes,
In her hand a shepherds hooke,
In her face *Dianaes* looke.
Her sheep grazed on the plaines,
Shee had stolne from the Swaines:
Vnder a coole silent shade,
By the streame she garlands made:
Thus sate *Phyllis* all alone,
Miss'd she was by *Coridon*,
Chiefest Swaine of all the rest,
Lonely *Phyllis* lik't him best.
His face was like *Phœbus* Loue,
His necke white as Venus Doue:
A ruddy cheeke filled with smiles,
Such loue hath when he beguiles:
His lookes browne, his eyes were gray,
Like *Titan* in a Summers day,
A russet iacket, sleeues red,
A blue bonnet on his head.
A cloke of gray fenc'd the raine,
Thus tyred was this louely Swaine:
A shepherds hooke, his dogge ride,
Bag and bottle by his side:
Such was *Paris* shepherds say,
When with *Oenone* he did play.
From his flocke stray'd *Coridon*,
Spying *Phyllis* all alone:
By the streame he *Phillis* spide,
Brauer then was Flora's pride:
Downe the valley gan he tracke,
Stole behind his true loues backe:
The Sunne shone and shadow made,
Phyllis rose and was afraide.
When she saw her louer there,
Smile she did, and left her feare.

Cupid that disdain doth lothe,
With desire strake them both.
The Swaine did woo, shee was nice,
Following fashion, nayde him twice:
Much ado he kist her then,
Maydens blush when they kisse men:
So did *Phyllis* at that stowre,
Her face was like the rose flower,
Last they 'greed, for Loue would so,
Faith and troth they would no mo.
For shepherds euer held it sin,
To false the loue they lined in.
The Swaine gaue a girdle red,
She set garlands on his head.
Gifts were giuen, they kisse againe,
Both did smile, for both were faine.
Thus was loue 'mongst shepheards sold:
When fancie knew not what was gold:
They wooed, and vowed, and that they keepe:
And go contented to ther sheepe.

The end of the Shepherds Ode.

AS soone as the Shepherd repeated the Ode, Terentia delighted with the description of the pastorall loue, for that it touched her passions, gaue him hearty thankes, and so the Swaine tooke his leaue and departed. Terentia and the rest hereupon growing into the effects of Loue that keepes no proportion of persons, wandred on talking towards the groue. And for that the Sunne grew hot, and was risen to the highest Zenith of the heauens, seeking for shelter, they went into the groue, which was seated hard by the pleasant current: finding out there a place conuenient, these three Ladies sit them downe upon the grasse, where delighted with the melody of the birds, and the coolnesse of the shade, they fell asleepe. Then liued in Rome, Varinius the Senatour, which was one of the most wealthy in possession of any that had beene Consul in the City, fauoured

euery way by fortune, had hee not beene thwarted by one grieuous and dolefull misfortune. For this Vacinius amongst many children had his eldest sonne, as first in birth, so brauest in proportion, of such excellent lineaments, touching the outward shape as nature seemed to haue been curious in her workmanship: but otherwise he was so foolish, and of so clownish capacity, that there was no hope of his future conceit: his name was after his father Vacinius. But for because, neither by the diligence of any master, nor the flattery of his friends, correction, or any other industry, he could be made capable of learning, or ciuilitie, vsing fashions and words from a harsh and grosse voyce, resembling rather a brutt beast, then a reasonable creature, hee was in derision called of euery man, Fabius the Foole. Vacinius grieuing that the gods had offered him this wrong, for that the presence of Fabius was the continuall course of his sorrowes, hee commanded that hee should goe to the Farme, and there liue amongst his shepheards: This was no little content to Fabius, as one that delighted more in the nature of clownes, and bondslaues, then in the courtly behauiour of Libertines, and Gentlemen. Fabius thus being in the Country, applying himselfe to all principles of husbandry, one day amongst the rest, walked forth, with a great bat on his necke, to ouersee his fathers pastures: at last, for that the Sunne was high and shone hote, he went into the groue, then all ouer-clad with leaues, for it was far spring; and seeing a place, wherein at pleasure to rest himselfe, he stumbled (by fortune) on the Mount where Terentia lay asleep, whom when Fabius espied, being clad in a robe of Silke so thinne, as the whitenesse of her skin did appeare, hauing her two companions by her side, he began as one amazed to behold. Leaning therefore on his great Bat, without vttering any word, he stood in great admiration what shee should be, as though hee had neuer seene so braue a creature before. Now entring into his rusticall, and blunt vnderstanding, (where neuer before could bee ingrauen any impression of honest ciuilitie,) a thought of fancy, which made him conceiue, in his grosse and martiall spirits, that this

made

maide was the fairest thing that euer could be censured by sight. In this humor he began to descant of her seuerall beauties, praysing her haire to be of gold, her forehead of Iuory, her lips Corall, and aboue all, her two breasts, which then began to appeare like pretty tender buds, in such simple sort distinguishing of her fauours, that from a grosse Clowne, he became to bee a Iudge of Beautie: especially coueting to see her eyes, which beauy sleepe had shut vp, determining often to haue waked her, to haue contented himselfe with their sightes. But seeing her more faire then any creature that before he had seene, hee thought her to be some Goddesse. Hauing thus farre knowledge, that things diuine should be reuerenced more then humane, and therefore durst not attempt to wake her, but (although she had a sound and long sleepe) tooke such pleasure in contemplating her perfections, that hee would by no delay depart. At last, after long space, Terentia awaked before any of the rest, and lifting vp her drowsie eyes, she saw before her, Fabius leaning vpon his staffe, whereof being halfe amazed, shee asked of him: Fabius, what seekest thou here in this groue? Fabius, who as well by his countenance, as clemency, and for the nobilitie of his house, as the riches of his Father, was generally knowne of all the Romanes, made no answere to Terentia: but seeing her eies open, he began to looke stedfastly vpon them, feeling a pleasant content to issue from those Lampes which sparkle as the very flame of loue: insomuch that Terentia seeing him gaze so earnestly, fearing the sturdie clowne might offer her some violence, wakened vp her companions, and starting vp, said, Fabius farewell. And although Terentia refused, as being surprised with great feare of his rusticall disposition: yet he would not forsake her, till he had brought her to her fathers house, where bluntly leauing the Lady, hee went home to his Fathers, saying he would not returne any more into the Countrey. Although it grieued his father to haue his sorrow continually before his eyes, yet wondring what the occasion of this strange motion should meane, hee was content to let him remaine at home in the citie. Loues arrowes thus piercing

into the heart of Fabius, whereinto neuer before any ciuill thought could enter, made such a Metamorphosis of his minde, that not onely his father and friends, but all Rome began to wonder at his sudden alteration: for hee required to be apparelled as the Son of a Senator, which his father with all diligence performed. Then frequenting the most courteous and honest yong Gentlemen of the City, especially such as were amorous, he (to the great astonishing of all) not only learned his letters, but became very studious, and grew to haue deepe insight into Philosophy, to be skilful in Musicke, to ride a Horse, and to bee expert in all gentle and manlike actiuity: to conclude, in short space hee was one of the braueſt yong men in Rome.

Here by the way (Courteous Ladies, and braue gentle women) what shall I say of the transformation of Fabius, only in my opinion this: That the high vertues of the heauens infused into his noble breſt, were imprisoned by the enuious wrath of fortune within some narrow corner of his heart, whose bandes went asunder by loue, as a Lord too mightie for fortune. Cupid the raiſer vp of sleepy thoughts, dispersed those vertues into euery part of his minde, obscured before, with the eclipse of base thoughts. Let vs then thinke of loue, as of the most pureſt passion that is inserted into the heart of man. Well, leauing Fabius studies how to excell in all laudable vertues, againe to Tully, who arriued in post haste to the lodging of Lentulus, and found him passing sicke, yet somewhat comforted at the sight of Cicero, as of him that he held most deere in the world. Tully seeing him ill and full of passions, durſt not tell him that hee had seene Terentia, leſt her froward answere should augment his misery: concealing therefore his chat that he had with the Ladies; at laſt, Lentulus shewed him the letter of Flauia: whereupon they fell to discourse of her beauties and vertues, how shee was not much inferiour to Terentia in fauour, but far beyond her in honors, discoursing long from point to point, that after a holy of broaken sighes tempered with some teares, he fell asleep. Tully glad that he tooke a nap, stole softly out of the chamber, and being by himſelfe, calling to minde

the

the words of Terentia, began to enter into combat with himself. So plaine are the aspects of the fore-appointing starres in some mens nativity, as they force fortune, maugre her own variable nature, to be constant. Amongst all that have been borne in the poore village of Arpinatum, thou mateſt (Tully) say, that thy planets have been pleasing, and thy desires favourable, who the sonne of a poore Farmer, art in hope to make thy house equall with the most in Rome. Measure but thy honour, and iudge of thy fortunes: thy family base, yet art thou a companion with Senators, and men of greatest account in the Citie. Honor treades on thy heele, and dignities dances attendance at thy lookes: but loue Cicero, that deity, that diuine essence, that stealeth vp content in all estates, he stoopeth at thy frowne, presents thee wreaths of Myrtle, that thou mateſt enter into Paphos without cherke. Terentia the wonder of Rome, Natures Paragon, the refined beauty of the heauens, she that seemeth to glance at the Prætextati; she that makes no account of the miracle of our time, Lord Lentulus: thee, Cicero, commanded by loue, yeelds her selfe captiue to the sonne of a poore countrey villager in Arpinatum. Then Tully strew Venus temple with Roses: say there is no font but Alcidalion, no hill but Erecinus, no bird but the Doue, no god but Cupid, Leese not opportunity, take her by the forehead, let not slip occasion, for she glides away like a shaddow: nor loue, for she hangs at the heeles of Time. Now Terentia hath put the pyon in the fire, strike then whilst it is hote, pay her downe pounds of loue for drams of fancy: for, in matching with the daughter of a Senator, thinke, it prefageth thou shalt be a Senator; so shalt thou gaine at one time, honor, dignity, wealth, and beauty: but with that, lose thy faith, Tully, thy faith thou hast vowed to Lentulus, who shutteth vp his secrets in thy heart, and resteth his thoughts on thy bosome. Will thou prefer honor before thy friend, or wealth before conscience: Ah Tully, if thou be the man that Rome wondereth at for thy eloquence, be also the man they shall canonize for thy vertue. Beauty is but vaines blaze, wealth is but fickle favor of Fortune, dignity is haunted by enuie, but friendship

that

that is the precious treasure, that neither Time nor Fortune can violate. Why, but Terentia will never loue Lentulus: then Tully hate thou euer Terentia. I am a man, and subiect vnto loue, as well as Lentulus: So art thou a man, and being false to thy friend, art vniworthy all loue. Abandon (Tully) these vaine imaginations, count Terentia foule, deformed, vicious, and what not: as long as one sparke of loue lieth raked vp in the cinders of thy thoughts, and as long as Lentulus loues her, hate her for thy selfe, and loue her for Lentulus. Setting downe his rest at this period, he went into the chamber, to see if Lentulus were awake, but finding him still fast asleepe, he went towards the Capitoll, where he met with Flaminius, the father of Terentia, who demanded very heartily how Lentulus did. Cicero with a deepe sigh said, Passion-sicke. Wherefore (quoth Flaminius) grow'es the disease? I heard Asclapo iudged his sicknes to be mortall. Tully thinking to set all on the dice, not respecting his owne soule, but his faith to his friend, began thus. Graue Senatour, I need not rehearse Lentulus birth, as being a citizen, nor his reuenues and possessions long knowne to euery man, nor his honors ended in victories: for the Parthians are sufficient euidence of his well discharged dignities and valours. Lentulus graced in the prime of his youth with these fauors, hearing of the beauty of a Roman Lady, left the wars, and came to Rome, where courting his Mistresse, not with wanton Poems, but with termes of marriage, he found her froward, and his loue dasht in the prime. The impression of her beauty grauen with too deepe a character, was too fast rooted in his heart, to be thrust out with dentall: yet Lentulus to content her plaies like the Phenix, burnes in his owne perfumes, rather wishing to die, then to contrary her resolution. This is the cause that first brought Lentulus to his bed, and this (ere long) will bring him to his graue. And who may it be (quoth Flaminius,) of what family, of what beauty, of what degree, that can, or dare deny Lord Lentulus? Is he not mighty, and may command by force, what he cannot obtaine by intreaty? will not the souldiers at his becke rise in armes? feare not the consuls themselues

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ſelues ſo wrong Lentulus? Doth not all Rome hang their thoughts at his lookes? Ah miſerable father that harbours ſuch a daughter, & ſtubborne huſwife that denies ſo braue a Romane: in friendſhip Tully tell me who it is? Cicero willing to put a ſpur to a free horſe, and to looſe his own content to win his friends quiet, told him flatly it was his daughter Terencia: and for proofe he ſhewed him the Letters that paſt betwixt Lentulus, and her. A ſoone as her father had read the contents, as a man halfe mad, he fell into furious and frantick fearmes, exclaiming againſt the head-ſtrong humor of fooliſh Terencia. After he had breathed out the heate of his choler, hee fell to be ſomewhat appeaſed, and bad Tully home to Supper, promiſing all ſhould ſort according vnto Lentulus minde. With that departing from the Capitoll, Tully and he went home to his houſe, where the Cooke beeing ſomewhat ſlacke, Flaminius hearing his daughter was all alone in a garden, he wiſhed Tully to try her once againe, and to perſwade her by all poſſible meanes to grant to the requeſt of Lentulus. Vpon this Tully went into the garden, where finding Terencia ſitting ſolitary in an Arbour vp to the hard eares in a dumpe, he wakened her out of her muſe thus. Veſtas chiefe paragon, and Venus new entertained darling, you Madam Terencia I meane, that ſit in a muſe: are you offering oblations to Diana for your chaſtity, or thanks to Cupid for your loues? or what are you thinking on when you thinke on nothing? Terencia turning her head and ſeeing Tully all alone, bluſht more then Cynthia did, when ſhe wantoned with her faire faced ſhepheard, yet welcoming her loue with a ſmile, ſhe tooke him by the hand and made him this anſwere.

Your ſubtile ſalutation, concluding Veſta & Venus in one Dilemma, commands me anſwer, that I was doing my deuotion to both, offring prayers for my old thoughts, & thanks for my new loues: and ſcarce had I ſaid, gramercy to the Goddeſſe, but you muſt come (Cicero) to make my thankes prodigious: for my thinking, when I thought of nothing, it was of mens loues which are lighter then the flame, and ſooner faded then a flaſh of lightning: But I pray you ſay, what

wind hath driuen you into this coast? Marry (Madam) the very sighes that flie from Lentulus breast grew to so great a storme, that I was blown hither to seeke shelter for the tempest. You haue nothing (quoth Terentia) but Lentulus in your mouth. I pray you say, how fares the Gentleman? Ill Madam (quoth Tully) euery way, for his diet is bad, in that his stomacke is naught, and his health is doubtfull, in that his thoughts are disquiet: and (Madam) it rests in you to saue so honorable a Gentleman, not onely from sickenesse, but from sorrow: Æneas was a straggling Troian, and exile perfured and banisht euen from the ruines of Troy, yet Dido the famous Carthage Queene made him her paramour. Demophoon a Pirate, a robber in Greece, cast vp as shipwracke on the shore, yet entertained by Phyllis: Phao a Ferriman, a slaue, yet fauoured by Sappho. Lentulus, the hope of the Romanes, more beautifull then Æneas, more courageous then Demophoon, and more honorable then Phao, more louing then them all, reiected by Terentia, his neighbor and familiar. Think not Terentia but loue as he hath roses, so he hath nettles; as he hath perfumes, so he hath hemlocke; and holding fauour, he claspeth reuenge, as ready to pierce, as to pacifie. If you procure Lentulus death, Cupid hath power to inforce your despaire, & to cause your loue to be as fickle to you, as you are froward to him. Then (Madam) let me be the messenger of life, & from your sweet selfe, carry such conserues to Lentulus, as may recouer his health, and increase your honours. This discourse of Tully did but set Terentias heart more on fire. For hearing the pleasant harmony of her Cicero, she liked of the musicke as of the Syrens melody, and so intangled her selfe with many new conceiued fancies, insomuch that forgetting whole daughter she was, shee burst forth into these tearmes.

Did I not Cicero tell thee twixt Arpinatum & Rome, that loue hath but one Cell, wherin to place the Idæa of the party loued? wilt thou haue me like the Camelion to haue many colours, or like Helena, to entertaine many loues? I know Lentulus dignities are beyond my degree, that his honours are more then my fortunes, that his loue is great, and so I

hold

hold him the second in my most secret thought, though first he cannot be, that he craues. Thou doest wring water out of the flint, fire forth of the dry sands, and immodestly from her that hath euer beene honoured for chastity: so that by wastlesse perswasions for thy friend, I am forc'd to say thou art the friend that Terentia hath chosen amongst all the worthy Romanes: Before I saw thee Tully, I loued thee, and now I haue settled my affection, and thou wrongest me with discourtesie: but either cease from intreating for Lentulus, or looke to see me worse then Lentulus. And with this blushing at her owne ouermuch loues, she powred forth such aboundance of teares, as well might bewray the sinceritie of her affections. Tully grieuing to see the goddesse of his thoughts in this passion, answered her mildly, thus. Blame me not (Terentia) if I plead for Lentulus, seeing his sorrow, and entring into mine owne promise. Than friendship is no sweeter to well, then how can I but labour ere I loose so rich a prize? But seeing Terentia hath vouchsafed of so meane a man as Tully, whose honours onely hang in his studies: loue being the straitest league of amitie, and no such friendship as is in marriage: I bowe by the Romane Gods, euer to bee a dutifull seruant vnto Terentia: and with my loyaltie so to requite her fauours, as Rome shall more admire my affections, than they haue wondred at my eloquence: yet with this Proviso (my sweet Terentia) that although I preferre thy fauours before mine owne life, yet if thou canst, striue to loue Lentulus, which if either the gods, loue, fortune, or thy selfe can bring to passe, I will with mine owne preiudice, conquer mine owne thoughts to satisfie the content of Lentulus. As Terentia was ready to reply, one of her Fathers seruants came to request Cicero to come to Supper, who taking his leaue of Terentia, went in to her father Flaminius, who sitting downe to supper, passed away the time in ordinary talke. Their repast being taken, Flaminius calling Tully on the one side, demaunded what his daughters answere was? Peremptorily (quoth Tully) still to hold Lentulus in mislike. Then you shall heare (quoth her Father) what I will say, and so report to Lentulus: so calling for

Terencia, they three being together he began thus.

I know not how Terencia, to insinuate my *Exordiū*, whether friendly to perswade with a smile, or fatherly to admonish with a frowne, thy follies are so great, and my care so tender. Rome hath hitherto admired thy vertues, and I haue prayed thy obedience: thou hast been counted honourable and chast, wise to eschew wantonnesse, but neuer cope to be thought disdainfull: and shalt now all these graces end in disgrace? Then Terencia maiest thou repent hereafter, and I powre forth present sorrowes. I speake thus, for that I heare in this citie what maketh me to grieue, & may forge thee to blush. They say Terencia is beautifull & proud, witty and ouerwerning, hauing coy disdaine crept into the place of curteous desire: thus men say that enuy thy follies, & grieue at Lentulus fortunes. Now daughter, thou seest the marke I aime at, & maist iudge of my shot by the level: Lentulus is fallen into a feuer, which Asclapo that famous Physitian of Patras censures to be mortall. Thy frowardnes was the efficient of the disease, & now thou denyest cure of the malady. Unadusted girle, that neither weighest of thine own honors, nor his miseries. Lentulus requires Terencia in marriage: let vs make compare of the parties, & so examine the cause of thy denials. He is descended from the Lentuli & Æmilii, two houses that euer haue been the props of the Roman dignities: his honours are great, as Proconsull in his youth against the Parthians: his fortunes mighty, doubled with his conquests and victories: His reuenewes such as he may with Crassus maintaine Legions. If like Venus darling thou seekest to feed thine eye, his fauour is more then his that pleased Cynthia. If thou coueiest a Souldier, Lentulus in Rome, is as Hector was in Troy. If a Courtier, who braues it so in Italy? To conclude, if Terencia couet to loue, there is none so fit to loue within the Romane Empire as Lentulus. Whereas Terencia is but the daughter of a meane Senator, her dowrie cannot be much for that her fathers wealth is not great: Beautifull she is, & so are many in Rome, who are of meaner parentage. Her glories are but fortunes pelfe, that flourish in the morning, & fade before night. What then can moue

Terencia

Terencia to oppose her selfe against Lentulus, vnlesse shee fatally prelageth her owne discredit, & the ruine of her fathers house? If then daughter thou art child to Flaminius, I charge thee by the strict law of nature, which Philosophers call *Regius amor*, a kingly loue: if thou be a maid, by that holy fire of Vesta: if beautifull, by Venus deitie: if a Roman, by thy countries loue that loues Lentulus: which if thou refuse to perform, thy father shall curse thee, Vesta shall shut thee from her temples, Venus from her fauors, and thy country from enioying the sweete content of honour, and then make thee outcast of all her Romane virgins. More are my reasons to alleage, then thy reasons able to contrarie: but omitting all, and saying he is onely Lentulus, Daughter, what answere?

Terencia seeing her Father in such a choller, and that hee was induced vnto it by Ciceroes persuasions, in a furie began thus frantick. I deny not, but fathers challenge loue by nature, and obedience by dutie, and both those (I hope) I haue euer performed: if not, I rest sorrowfull, and craue pardon: but in loue parents haue no priuiledge: For the liking of the Father is no contract of the daughter. Venus conclusions grow not of parents promises, nor can affection be like the fire strooken forth of a flint: for loue is chosen by the eye, and confirmed by the heart, womens thoughts are not the spoyles of Mars, nor is the Battle of fancie fought with the sword, but with the sences, and loues arrowes are appointed by fate and fortune. Weigh then Terencia, who hath not her loues in hand, but in her heart, and thereunto none can make breath, but such a one as the pleasing constellation of the starres haue appointed. I doe not deny the excellencie of Lentulus, as well in exterior shew of honours, wealth, dignities, & proportion, as in the interior vertues & perfection of the minde, and that he merits a Lady of farre more esteeme then Terencia: but I know not what contrarie aspect, either of the planets in our natiuities, or of loues in our thoughts, or of fortune in our resolution to like, hath crossed his desire, and my fancie, but of all the Romane Gentlemen, I cannot fancie my Lord Lentulus. Cressida confest Troylus was the better Knight, and yet the Grae-

held her lonely in his tent. With then affection growes from desire, and desire is tyed to destiny, seeke not Sir to bring water out of the pumer, or to couple the Mouse and the Elephant at one stall, to vnite those loues that Venus in her Synode-house hath expressly counter-checkt. For to answere your obiection, Terentia cannot force her selfe to loue Lentulus. Shee thus concluded with a few teares, her Father departing from her with a frowne, told Tully that no reason was sufficient to induce his daughter to be affectionate, & therefore that he wished Lentulus to appease his passions, and to salue such impossibilities with patience: whereupon they, after change of salutations & common curtesies, parted with a friendly farewell. Tully at his home comming, reuealed vnto Lentulus the whole discourse, how Flaminius had searcht into the depth of Terentias thoughts, both with plausible perswasions, and inforced reasons, and could find no other conclusion, but that she could not loue Lentulus. Although this newes pierced the very center of his heart, as mortally, as if hee had beene wounded with the sting of Aspes: yet cheering himselfe a little, he sate vp, and in his owne mind hauing a bout or two with fancy, hee gaue her so deepe a reute, that hee held affect at the swords point. But Tully, who betweene friendship and loue felt a furious combat, allured with the beautious perfection of Terentia, & forbidden that fauour by the entyre amitie he had vowed vnto Lentulus, entred into so deepe a melancholy, that not able to master his passions, hee fell sicke, and kept his bed. Lentulus seeing his Tully thus distrest, grieued at his friends misfortune, and cheered vp himself, that he might somwhat comfort his Cicero, that newly was crossed with a distempered sicknes. He sought by Physicke to search out the nature of the disease: but Aesclapo could not deeme the cause by the effects: he sought by intreaties to wrest out the occasion of so sodaine a sorrow, but in vaine. Tully was too secret and silent to make any shew of his loues, though he bought such secresie with death. This grieued Lentulus, who feeling him selfe euery day to amend, perceiued that Cicero daily mended worse and worse. Liuring thus in inward passions,

Terentia

Terentia that tooke it discourteously at Tullies hand, that he should force her father, to inforce her to loue Lentulus, seeing she had only deuoted her selfe as his, howsoeuer fortune should oppose her selfe; to ease her mind of some choler that boyled in her secret thoughts, shee tooke pen and inke, and wrote him a letter to this effect.

Terentia, to Marcus Tullius
Cicero, health.

AS my thoughts are secret, & loues extreame, so is vnkindnes bitter, & the more vneasie borne. Thou playest (Tully) with me, as doe the Leopards with their keeper, that euer wrong them most, that giue them greatest store of fodder. Are these Venus Lawes to pay hony with gall, to make rods of nettles, for garlands of Roses, to hate them most, that loue most? The ingratitude of Tully hath drawne Terentia into this choler. And if I write sharply, blame me not that am vsed so sharply. Before I euer saw thy face I allowed thy fauour, and onely hearing thy vertues with mine eare, I registred them vp deeply in my heart. Terentia hath bin courted of many, yet neuer made account of any: sundry haue sought my loues, but they haue returned with losse. Lentulus the terrour of the Parthians, the honour of the Romanes, and thy friend hath long wooed, but what hath he woon? onely Tully hath obtained, that which so many haue mist, and yet he deales with Terentia as crabbedly, as she vsed him courteously. Do louers for fishes proffer scorpions? or do they like the serpent, sting him that cherisheth him vp in his bosome? I seeke to fauour Tully, and he, importunate, sues for fauor to Lentulus. Art thou so deepe a Philosopher as to deeme friendship aboue marriage, or faith aboue fancy, or thy Terentia lesse then thy Lentulus? If it be so, take heed that Terentia, too much wronged, scornes not both thee and Lentulus. Womens thoughts consist oft in extreames, and they that loue most, if abused, hate most deadly: feare this, and beware of my frowne: as yet there is but one wrinkle in my browe, but if it once proone full of angry forrowes,

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it will be too late to take hold of occasion behinde: Thou art forewarned, beforo armd, and so farewell.

Thy Terentia, if thou wrong not Terentia.

After shee had written this Letter, shee caused it to be conueied by Eutrapilus to Tully, who reading the contents, found not a salue to cure his malady, but that Terentia rubbed the scar afresh, by shaking him vp so sharpely, yet coueting rather to die with an honorable mind to Lentulus, then with a discredit to enioy beautifull Terentia, he laid his head on his pillow, and with many sighes betwixte the depth of his sorrowes. Hauing laid his letter at his beds head, ouercharged with many cares, poore Tully fell asleepe, and so suddenly, that Lentulus, by the helpe of Eutrapilus got to haue a sight of his letter. Assoone as the Gentleman saw how deepely Terentia was affected to his friend, and perceiued by the circumstances, that he chose rather to die, then to falsifie his faith, such a secret loue towards Tully so pierced the closet of his honourable thoughts, that he fell to conceite but meanly of Terentia, and to wish that his friend Cicero might both recouer his health, & his loue. Now began that fancy of Lentulus to freeze, that erst was so great a flame, and he that like the Salamander delighted to liue in the fire, began to feare to *accedere ad ignem*, lest he should *Calescere plus quam satis*. Now he called to mind the resolution of Terentia, tempered with frowardnesse, and with this hee did propoztion the vertues of Flauia, mixed with courtesie, finding the fauour of the one, answerable to the beautie of the other, then the faith of his friend, his sicknes and extreame sorrowes. These weighed with deepe consideration, he vowed to seeke by all meanes how to winne Terentia wholy for his friend Cicero. In this humor he conueied this letter vnder his beds-head, and rested silent till occasion might offer him opportunity to discouer the perfection of his amitie. Thus grew Lentulus at one time from his sicknes & his loue, walking abroad, and visiting Flaminius, who intertained him in

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all sumptuous manner. But Lentulus seeing the three Ladies, made no shew to Terentia, nor scarce glanced a looke vpon her beauty, but onely courted the Lady Flauia, whom he found so agreeable and pliant to his suites, that Terentia and Cornelia might easily see how deepely they were linked in the league of affection. Leauing Tully thus sicke on his bed, and Lentulus in sweet content with Flauia, againe to our new transformed Fabius, who in this time proued one of the bravest Gentlemen in Rome, and finding a restlesse passion in his minde for the beautie of Terentia, as hauing continually before his eyes the Idæa of her person, seeing by her meanes hee was metamorphosed and brought to this perfection, making the force of his loue privy to his Father Vatinius, he was not onely praised for his good choice, but willed to go forward in the obtayning of his affections. Whereupon, not willing to make a long harvest of a little crop, to prevent (as he thought) that none should cut the grasse from vnder his feet, hee went to Terentias Father, and bluntly craued his daughter in marriage. He knowing him to be of honourable parentage, and of rich revenewes, seeing she would not condescend vnto Lentulus, gaue him his franke good will, if he could creepe into his daughters favour; who taking the advantage of the time, went to find out Terentia, who as then was very melancholy, sitting with Flauia and Cornelia, talking of the sicknes of Tully. As they were thus in chat, came in Fabius, whom they straight knew & wondred at this strange alteration: he, to shew he could as well court it as the bravest young Gentleman in Rome, began thus courteously to salute the Ladies. Parvell not (Ladies) if a country swain presume to attempt the presence of such rare excellencies, seeing Oenones shepheard durst with his eye survey the beauty of diuine goddesses: and they to shew they were as gracious and full of favours, gaue him the greatest minion that was counted the greatest paragon of the world. Earthly creatures you be, faire Romans, but heavenly faces, whose looks lighten diuine influence into the thoughts of such as dare to contemplate your perfections. I speake this as being the man, that from the cart liue in the court, thus

metamorphosed by your superexcellent all beauties. For which favor I am come in duty, to rest a bounden votary to your sweet selues. Terentia was so pensiue for Tullies passions, that she would make no answere. But Cornelia, whom already Cupid had set on fire with Fabius feature, she returned him this reply.

I remember Fabius, that sitting in the grove by Arpinarum, a gentle swaine much like your selfe in proportion, though not in properties seeing we were slenderly guarded with a Page, conducted vs home to Rome with his friendly company: if it be your selfe, had we as braue a Lady as Helena was, and were she in our power to bestow, we would make you master and sole possessor of her beauties, so to reward your courtesie. Fabius seeing the marke so faire, thought not to loose his shoote, but aimed his level thus.

And for that cause (Ladies) is Fabius come, that his meed may not want his merite, glad that Venus deines downe such fauors, and opportunity such showers of good fortune to finde you all here in so fit a time. For know (honourable Romans) that for my grosse and rude nature, hating the ciuill behauiour of the Citie, I was surnamed Fabius: in which obscure life I liued, hauing my senses eclipsed with folly, till the gods grudging at natures spite, sent you three to be ministers of happines. For comming into the grove where you lay all asleepe, casting mine eye on the beauty of Terentia, such a deepe impression was figured in my minde, that I felt an vnacquainted motion, with a milde reuerence to thinke well of her perfection: surueying her singular beauties, I fell so farre in loue with her excellency, that from the country I came to the city, and how since by her gracious sight I haue metamorphosed my selfe, your owne eares, and the wonder of Rome is best able to witnesse. Then Ladies, I count the renewing of my life to come from the feature of Terentia, and that she not as Diana, changed me from a man to be a beast, but contrary, full of fauour, hath reduced me from a sensual beast, to a perfect reasonable man. How deepely then I ought to be bound to her, whose sight is the welspring of my happines, let the greatnes of my benefit make

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manifeſt: inſomuch, as feeding my thoughts with the contemplation of Terentias beauty, I haue beene thus transformed, but withall, ſo ſurpriſed with her loue, that as I haue gained a ſecond eſſence by her ſweet ſelfe, ſo haue I loſt my ſelfe within the Labyrinth of her lookes, that I remaine her captiue while it pleaſeth her to grant me liberty. Be then (braue Roman dames) impartiall doomers of my ſute, whether my deſerts craue not loue, that thus haue beene changed for her loue. My parents are Senators, my reuenewes inferiour to none: old Vatinius glad of my choyce, and Terentias father thrice happy, if his daughter might like of Vatinius. Now reſts it onely in Terentias power to make me bleſſed or infortunate. At this diſcourſe of Fabius, the Ladies were aſtoniſhed, and Terencia galled to the quicke with this demand, held her tongue, till Cornelia and Flauia looking earneſtly vpon her, aſked her what anſwere ſhe made to Fabius. Such quoth ſhe as I returned to Lentulus: for know ſir, if either the honour of a ſouldier, the dignity of a Roman, the reuenues of a Senators ſon, or the deepe impreſſion of fancy might haue drawne Terencia to loue, I had beene ere this the wife or paramour of Lentulus. But not the courage of Hector that won Andromache, nor the wiſedome of Vliſſes that intangled Calipſo, nor the beauty of Priamus ſon that drew Greece in armes to Troy: theſe perfections if combined in one man, ſhould not moue Terencia to liſten to the allurements of Venus: not that I make light eſteem of Lentulus, or that I hold ſmall account of Fabius as two chiefe mirrours of our Romane Gentlemen: but that either my vowes are reſolued to Veſta, or if Cupid hath taken me by the heele, it was before Lentulus came from Parthia, or you from Arpinatum: ſo that to conclude, howſoeuer it is I cannot become affectionate to Fabius. At this reply Fabius ſtood ſo amazed, as if he had beene an vnwelcome gueſt at the feaſt of Perſeus which Cornelia noting, deeply in loue with Fabius, ſhe told him thus: Nor may you (Fabius) think much at this repulſe, ſince Lentulus and you are in one predicament now both become gainers in liberty, that haue beene loſers in loue: and either get the willow garland, and ſo mourne for

your Ladies krowne, or seeke a Pistris that may theis pon moze favour: for as for Terencia she hath chosen, and none must please her but Orators. If there be (Fabius) but one sonne that is thought the beauty of heauen, yet there be planets that though not in shine, yet in influence are as vertuous. What there be Ladies (I meane) of such course dye as my selfe and Flauia, that when Terencia is once married look for husbands. Fabius hearing Cornelia thus pleasant, noted this quip that none must please her but Orators, which made Terencia blush for anger, and Fabius to make this answere: I know no Orators in Rome quoth he, whose yeares are answereable to Terencias thoughts, but only Marcus Tullius Cicero: and if it be he, I sweare by the fitch that gaue him this surname, Terencia shall be Pistris of a goodly Cottage in Arpinatum. Terencia hearing Fabius to giue Tully the frumpe, answered thus.

The more his fortunes, if it be he whose vertues hath made him maker of his owne desires: for his lands in Arpinatum, as they be little, yet shall his lacke be countervailed with his loues: and if he hath not one to inrich him with dowry, yet I may perhaps content him with beauty. And therefore Fabius (to take away all suspitions) itis Tully and none but Tully that shall enioy Terencia. And, quoth Fabius in great choler, nor Tully, nor none besides Tully (but Fabius) shall enioy Terencia. Whereupon departing without taking his farewell, going in to her father, discoursing vnto him, that Tully was the man that his daughter had chosen for her husband, sweareing that his sword, ere it were long should end their loues. Although Flaminius were grieued, yet he sought to pacifie Fabius, but in vaine: for he flung out of the doores in a rage, and went to Mileos house to seeke Tully. Where breathing out many despightfull threats against the Orator, it came at last to Lentulus eare. Who now to make manifest the deepe affection hee bare to Cicero, trouping himselfe with a crue of the *Prætextati*, and chiefe Romane Gentlemen that had beene souldiers, and trained vp with him in the warres, he went to seeke out Fabius, and found him with certaine his companions about the Capitoll. Lentulus

tulus not brooking the braue of any, as carrying the heart of a Conquerour, singled out Fabius, and after some words, they fell to blowes: but Fabius part were the weaker, so that many were wounded, and some slaine. Vpon this the next day, parts were taken, the people began to mutine, and to fall to intestine and ciuill iarres, that as in time of Sylla and Marius, so the streets were filled with armed Souldiers. The Senators seeing what bloodly stratagemes would insue of this strife, if it were not pacified sent for the Consuls, and charged them to raise some of the Legions, and bring Lentulus, Tully and Fabius the next day to the Senate house with Terentia, and her Father. They obeying their command, put this charge in execution, and so qualifying somewhat the fury of the people, brought these three wooers, with (Terentia) before the whole state of Rome. Where being arriued, Tully fearefull of nature, and sicke, yet somewhat strengthened with the sight of his Mistresse, being glad Lentulus was his friend in his loue, after due reuerence, began thus.

Tullies Oration to the Senate.

COnscript Fathers and graue Senators of Rome, I was borne in Arpinatum, of base parentage, the first of the Ciceroes that euer pleaded in Rostris, or bare title in the Citie. If then aduanced by your fauors to these fortunes, I should attire without proportion to climb beyond my degree, let me be the first and last whose presumption shall grow to this preiudice. The Temple of Ianus in Rome hath her gates shut, the streets are full of armed men, the stones of the Capitoll blush at the blood of the Romanes shed against her walles: and all this mutiny (cry mine aduersaries) growes from Tully. Not that Tully was then out of his bed, but that men of poore families lifted vp to honour, are soonest bitten with enuy. I appeale (graue Senators) for my life to your owne censures, if euer I haue not beene more careful to profite my Country, then desirous of preferment for my labours. But what then say the people is cause

of such broyles? Terentia the daughter of Flaminius, the fire brand that set Troy to cinders. Beauty is like to bring Rome to confusion: for the greatest houses and families are diuide, the Lenculi and Varinii, and this for Terencia. Let the cause be examined before the Senators, and as they heare, so let him doome. Lentulus chosen by the Senate, was sent Captaine ouer many Legions against the Parthians, where he tyed fortune to his thoughts, by his great victories and conquests, set vp Trophees of Romane chiualry. Returning with glory to Rome, hauing set in his place, Lepidus, he was enamoured not onely of the beauty, but vertues of Terencia, the fame of whose excellency was spred amongst the Parthians. Coueting to match with so honorable a Lady, he courted her, but in vaine; not that she disdained Lentulus, but that shee had fixed her fancy before shee saw Lentulus: and the platforme of loue is able to receiue but one impression. If honors, if conquest, if parentage, if reuenues, if courage, if goods of fortune, body or mind might haue won Terencia, all this was vnited in yong Lentulus. But loue that liketh without exceptions, had ouerhard her heart with such former fancies, as the passionate suite of Lentulus could haue no entrance. His thoughts were extreame, and the disquiet of his mind brought a disease to his body. But when he knew that Terencia loued his friend, he appeased his passions, and rested content with his fortunes. The vnconstant goddesse, whose smiles are ouershadowed with frownes, not content honor should spring vp without enuy, sends Terencia to walke abroad towards Arpinatum, where then Fabius liued, as famous for his rusticke and vnciuill life, as now he is wondred at for his braue and courtly behauior: Spying Terencia, he was as Lentulus snared in her beauty, that the Romans to report a miracle, said, loue made him of a clowne a braue and resolute Gentleman. The excellency of Terencia hauing new polished nature in Fabius, he sues for her fauour, but her thoughts that were forepointed with other passions, intreates him to bridle affection, and to make a conquest of himselfe, by seducing the force of fancy, seeing her resolution was directed to loue none but one,

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and that was Tully. This word (graue Senators and Romans) sounding basely in the eares of Fabius, caused him to take armes, and Lentulus to defend his friend Cicero, as for him before he had lost his loue, so hee meant to loose his life, and withstood him in the face. Thus grew this mutiny, not against beauty, for it is a chiefe good of it selfe, nor against Tully, for he is meane and vnworthy to be reuenged by armes, but against Terentia, because shee vouchsafed to loue Tully. This (Romans) is the cause of this mutiny, to suppresse which let Tully die: for he had rather pacifie this strife by death, then see the meanest Roman fall on the sword. The common people at this began to murmure, pleased with the plausible Oration of Tully, which one of the Senators seeing stood vp and said thus: Terentia, Cicero hath shewed reasons why thou shouldest loue Lentulus and Fabius, but what reason canst thou infer to loue so meane a man as Tully? Terentia blushing made this answere: Before so honourable an audience, as these graue Senators, and worthy Romane Citizens, womens reasons would seeme no reasons especially in loue, which is without reason; therefore I onely yeeld this reason, I loue Cicero, not able to ratifie my affection with any strong reason, because loue is not circumscript within reasons limits: but if it please the Senate to pacifie the mutinie, let Terentia leaue to liue, because she cannot leaue to loue, and onely to loue Cicero. At this she wept, and stained her face with such a pleasing vermilion die, that the people shouted, None but Cicero. Whervpon before the Senate, Tully and Terentia were betrothed, Lentulus and Fabius made friends, and the one named Lentulus as the Annales made mention, married to Flauia, and Fabius wedded to the worthy Cornelia.

FINIS.